

**NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS**

**DATE: JUNE 09, 2020**

**TIME: 7:30 P.M.**

**PLACE: HELD REMOTELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS' MARCH 12, 2020 ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW G. L. C. 30A, SECTION 20 AND THE CITY COUNCIL'S VOTE TO WAIVE RULE 21A**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS DEBORA COELHO, CHAIRPERSON; NAOMI CARNEY, VICE CHAIRPERSON; IAN ABREU; DEREK BAPTISTE; MARIA GIESTA; BRIAN GOMES; SCOTT LIMA; JOSEPH LOPES; WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY; LINDA MORAD**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLOR HUGH DUNN**

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Councillor Coelho called the Appointments & Briefings Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk informed the Committee that Councillor Dunn called to say he would not be in attendance as he had a conflict.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a PUBLIC HEARING on an APPLICATION, Matthew F. Braccia, d/b/a U-HAUL International, Inc., for a SPECIAL PERMIT for Motor Vehicles Sales and Rentals, at 429 Church Street, New Bedford, MA 02745 (Application Rec'd 04/13/2020) (Duly advertised in The Standard-Times on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 and Wednesday, June 03, 2020.) was received and placed on file and the hearing opened by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Markey. (1)

Mr. Stoyan Kuvachen, Manager for U-Haul Southern Massachusetts was present and addressed the Committee. He told the Committee they will be placing a U-Haul at 429 Church Street, which is the old Plumbers Supply building consisting of 85,000 square feet. They will have a storage facility in the rear, and a store/retail area in the front to sell shipping and mobbing materials, boxes, tape, etc. They will have approximately twenty-five (25) trucks on the premises, but they will be rented out. Cleaning of the trucks will be done on site. Repairs will be done at their Brockton repair facility. The truck rental portion of the business will be opened first. Followed by the storage area once constructed. Customers could rent online or come into the facility. Most are done online because of COVID-19.

Councillor Morad asked about the hours of operation and she was told they will be Monday – Saturday 7 am to 7 pm and Sundays 7 am to 5 pm. She asked how many people will be in the facility at 7 am, she was told on the average five (5) to ten (10) people. She asked about storage access, it will be by key code and access twenty-four (24) hours a day. No onsite security personnel but their will be cameras; in case of an emergency the General Manager lies in Fall River, twenty-two (22) miles away.

Councillor Morad asked Danny Romanowicz, DIS Commissioner if the applicant met all the requirements. Commissioner Romanowicz said that they did, and he is pleased with the plan submitted. He reminded the Committee that on the left side of this building is where the train would be stopping, and the right side would be open to commercial traffic.

The Committee discussed changing the hours of operation. Attorney Gerwatowski stated that you could change them prior to issuing the permit, but once issued you could not go back mid-issuance and change it again. Commissioner Romanowicz reminded the committee that the noise ordinance allows for such business to operate between the hours of 7 am and 10 pm. The applicant also reminded the Committee that the hours of operation would be the same as the business that previously occupied the space.

Councillor Giesta welcomed the business but thought an hour change should be considered.

The Chair asked if there was anyone present who wanted to speak in or be recorded in favor of the petition; there was none. The Chair asked if there was anyone present who wanted to speak or be recorded in opposition of the petition; there was none.

Councillor Lopes made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Councillor Abreu. This motion passed on a voice vote.

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION, Matthew F. Braccia, d/b/a U-HAUL International, Inc., for a SPECIAL PERMIT for Motor Vehicles Sales and Rentals, at 429 Church Street, New Bedford, MA 02745. This motion Passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 2, with Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of JANE GONSALVES, New Bedford, MA to the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, as an ALTERNATE MEMBER; this term will expire December 2024 (Ref'd 02/13/2020) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes. (2)

Former City Councillor Jane L. Gonsalves was present to answer questions from the Committee.

Councillor Morad thanked her for her willingness to serve and remind her that this a Committee where many changes affect residents and she asked that she keep that in mind when making decisions. She stated that she knows Ms. Gonsalves knows this having served as a Ward Councillor.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of JANE GONSALVES, NEW BEDFORD, MA to the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, as an ALTERNATE MEMBER; this term will expire December 2024. 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 JACQUELINE K. MEDEIROS, New Bedford, MA to the COUNCIL ON AGING; Ms. Medeiros will be replacing Inez Mello, who has passed away; this term will expire November 2022 (Ref'd 03/12/2020) was received and placed on file by Councillor Mora and seconded by Councillor Abreu. (3)

Jacqueline Medeiros was present to answer questions from the Committee. Councillor Abreu asked Ms. Medeiros what new ideas she could bring to the table on the Council on Aging. Ms. Medeiros said she has plans to support ideas to keep older citizens active. She stated that she was with Coastline Elderly for twelve (12) years and was the Director of the Foster Grandparent Program there before retiring.

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of JACQUELINE K. MEDEIROS, New Bedford, MA to the COUNCIL ON AGING; Ms. Medeiros will be replacing Inez Mello, who has passed away; this term will expire November 2022. 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 LINDA HASKINS, New Bedford, MA to the COMMISSION FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES; Ms. Haskins will be replacing Herbert Eddleston, who resigned and has since passed away; this term will expire May 2021 (Ref'd 03/12/2020) (5/11/2020 tabled) was remove from the table by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Lima. (4)

Ms. Haskins was present to answer questions from the Committee. Councillor Abreu asked if she had any ideas to bring to the Committee and she stated not really but she would work to ensure ADA compliance is met within the City. She is very much aware of the difficulty in getting around, she has a disability herself. She has worked since 1995 for the Department of Developmental Services and has worked for Coastline Elderly for twelve (12) years.

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of LINDA HASKINS, New Bedford, MA to the COMMISSION FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES; Ms. Haskins will be replacing Herbert Eddleston, who resigned and has since passed away; this term will expire May 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 Nasar Bokhari, 347 North Street, New Bedford, MA 02740, d/b/a GOOD LIMOUSINE/AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION, LLC. hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford (License will expire June 30, 2020.) (Ref'd 03/12/2020); and a COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of Nasar Bokhari, 347 North Street, New Bedford, MA 02740, d/b/a GOOD LIMOUSINE/AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION, LLC.

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 (Term of License July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.) (Ref'd 03/12/2020) were received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Abreu. (5, 5a)

The Clerk explained the need for the two petitions before the Committee. The applicant was not present. It was requested that when the item is heard again, that the applicant be contacted and reminded about the meeting.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To table 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 REAPPOINTMENT of BETHANY FAUTEUX, New Bedford, MA to the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION; this term will expire April 2022 (Ref'd 4/7/20) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes. (6)

Ms. Fauteux was not present, Councillor Morad asked that the Office reach out to the applicant to see if she is still interested in the position.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To table 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 TRACY TARVERS, New Bedford, MA to the COMMISSION FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES, replacing Linda Carreiro; this term will expire May 2021 (Ref'd 5/14/2020) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta. (7)

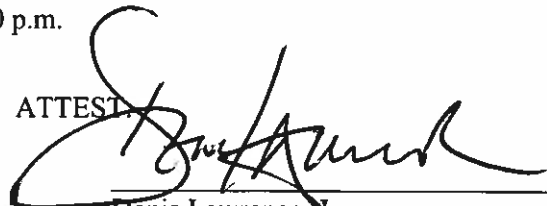
Ms. Tarvers was not present, Councillor Morad asked that the Office reach out to the applicant to see if she is still interested in the appointment.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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

This meeting adjourned @ 8:20 p.m.

ATTEST



Denis Lawrence, Jr.,  
Clerk of Committees