

NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS
DATE: FEBRUARY 16, 2021
TIME: 7:00 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 NAOMI CARNEY, CHAIRPERSON; WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY, VICE CHAIRMAN; IAN ABREU; DEBORA COELHO; HUGH DUNN; MARIA GIESTA; SCOTT LIMA; JOSEPH LOPES; LINDA MORAD

ABSENT: COUNCILLORS DEREK BAPTISTE; BRIAN GOMES

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Councillor Carney called the Appointments & Briefings Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read Communications from Councillors Baptiste and Gomes explaining their absence from this meeting. These Communication were received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Abreu. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 8, Nays 0. (Councillor Dunn not present for the vote)

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of CITIZEN'S INPUT TIME – Not to exceed the first thirty (30) minutes of the meeting. John Silvia, 1256 Sassaquin Avenue, New Bedford, speaking on Water Bill (Ref'd 09/29/2020) (09/29/2020 – tabled) and Mary Feitelberg, 749 Purchase Street, New Bedford, speaking on the role of firefighters and the value they contribute. (Ref'd 09/29/2020) (09/29/2020 – tabled) (1, 1a,1b)

The Clerk informed the Committee that neither one of the applicants were present for this meeting.

On motion by Councillor Coelho and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To take "No Further Action" on John Silvia and Mary Feitelberg at this time. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a PUBLIC HEARING on an APPLICATION, Claudia Faia, d/b/a Salco Auto Sales LLC, for a SPECIAL PERMIT for Motor Vehicle Sales and Rentals at 1615 Cove Road, New Bedford, MA 02740 (Application Rec'd 01/12/2021) (Duly advertised in The Standard-Times on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 and Tuesday, February 9, 2021.) was received and placed on file and the hearing opened by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Giesta. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0. (2)

The Applicants Claudia Faia and her husband Yusef Sala were present and explained they just recently purchased 1615 Cove Road and a home on Lombard Street in New Bedford. They have decided to live and work in the city. Mr. Sala has been involved in the auto transportation business for ten (10) years and has done auto sales as well. They will be selling cars at the Cove Road location and will not have any other activities, such as repairs.

Councillor Abreu asked about the number of vehicles, he was told they hoped for twenty-five (25) vehicles, but they are willing to work with the city should it need to be a different number. They will have a total of four (4) new jobs.

Councillor Lopes asked about their hours of operations and he was told Monday through Sunday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Councillor Markey asked Commissioner Danny Romanowicz about the number of vehicles on the location. Mr. Romanowicz stated that twenty-five (25) vehicles is an aggressive number given the size of the lot, but that his department will work with the property owner to come up with an appropriate number.

Councillor Carney asked if there was anyone who wished to speak or be recorded in favor of the application, there was none. She also asked if there was anyone who wished to speak or be recorded in opposition of the application, there was none. The hearing was closed.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION, Claudia Faia, d/b/a Salco Auto Sales LLC, for a SPECIAL PERMIT for Motor Vehicle Sales and Rentals at 1615 Cove Road, New Bedford, MA 02740. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

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Councillor Morad asked if it would be possible to take items three (3) and four (4) up together, there was no objection.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a PETITION, EDWARD W. BOLDUC, WESTPORT, MA 02790 d/b/a Cojo's Toy World, 763 Purchase Street, requesting that he be granted a Waiver of Residency in accordance with Section 15-18 of the City Code, to obtain a LICENSE TO DEAL IN JUNK, OLD METALS OR ANY OTHER SECOND HAND ARTICLES (Ref'd 01/28/2021) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0. (3)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a PETITION, JASON J. AGUIAR, SWANSEA, MA 02777-4947 d/b/a Cojo's Toy World, 763 Purchase Street, requesting that he be granted a Waiver of Residency in accordance with Section 15-18 of the City Code, to obtain a LICENSE TO DEAL IN JUNK, OLD METALS OR ANY OTHER SECOND HAND ARTICLES (Ref'd 01/28/2021) was received and placed on file by

Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0. (4)

Edward W. Bolduc of Westport, MA and Jason J. Aguiar of Swansea, MA were both present and were seeking a waiver of residency to allow them to do business in the City of New Bedford.

The applicants would be selling vintage toys. 90% will be originals in boxes, the remaining 10% loose toys pre-packaged. The business will be at the former Finest Hour Storefront. The hours of operation will be Wednesdays through Saturdays 11 am to 6 pm and Sundays from 11 am to 4 pm. If the business does well, they may look to add an additional day.

Councillor Abreu asked if they would work with other stores in promoting each other's businesses and he was told yes.

Councillor Lima was concerned about the term junk and old metals in the licensing agreement. He wanted to make sure the business owners were not going to be dealing in junk. He was told they would not.

A discussion took place on the wording old metals, could it be removed and Attorney Gerwatowski explained that it could be; but currently the wording on the permit/license reads as a "LICENSE TO DEAL IN JUNK, OLD METALS OR ANY OTHER SECOND HAND ARTICLES."

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Dunn, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the PETITION, EDWARD W. BOLDUC, WESTPORT, MA 02790 d/b/a Cojo's Toy World, 763 Purchase Street, requesting that he be granted a Waiver of Residency in accordance with Section 15-38 of the City Code, to obtain a LICENSE TO DEAL IN JUNK, OLD METALS OR ANY OTHER SECOND HAND ARTICLES. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Dunn, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the PETITION, JASON J. AGUIAR, SWANSEA, MA 02777-4947 d/b/a Cojo's Toy World, 763 Purchase Street, requesting that he be granted a Waiver of Residency in accordance with Section 15-38 of the City Code, to obtain a LICENSE TO DEAL IN JUNK, OLD METALS OR ANY OTHER SECOND HAND ARTICLES. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Coelho, requesting, that Will Gardner, Executive Director, Alma Del Mar Charter School be invited to attend a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to update the members on his intent to expand classroom sizes and accept more students. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings.) (Ref'd 08/16/18) (5)

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to take "No Further Action" on

the WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Coelho, requesting, that Will Gardner, Executive Director, Alma Del Mar Charter School be invited to attend a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to update the members on his intent to expand classroom sizes and accept more students. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a RESOLUTION, Councillors Dunn, Lopes, Giesta, Abreu, and Markey, AGAINST EXPANDING CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN THE CITY OF NEW BEDFORD. (Ref'd 09/13/18) (6)

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to take "No Further Action" on the RESOLUTION, Councillors Dunn, Lopes, Giesta, Abreu, and Markey, AGAINST EXPANDING CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN THE CITY OF NEW BEDFORD. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Council President Morad, requesting, that Park Board Chairperson Peter Boswell and Suzanne Sullivan, Chairperson of the nonprofit Save The Bells, Inc., be invited to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings to provide an update regarding the bell tower project and the proposed placement of said bell tower at Clasky Common Park. (Ref'd 03/28/19) (7)

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to take "No Further Action" on the WRITTEN MOTION, Council President Morad, requesting, that Park Board Chairperson Peter Boswell and Suzanne Sullivan, Chairperson of the nonprofit Save The Bells, Inc., be invited to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings to provide an update regarding the bell tower project and the proposed placement of said bell tower at Clasky Common Park. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Coelho, Lima, Lopes, Council President Morad and Councillor Giesta requesting that the Executive Director of the New Bedford Business Park, Derek Santos, come before the Committee on Appointment and Briefings for purpose of briefing the Committee Members, on the overview of the business park's workings and any future plans for park growth and to bring more hi-tech businesses to the area. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings.) (Ref'd 05/23/19) (06/12/19-tabled) (8)

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to take "No Further Action" on the WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Coelho, Lima, Lopes, Council President Morad and Councillor Giesta requesting that the Executive Director of the New Bedford Business Park, Derek Santos, come before the Committee on Appointment and Briefings for purpose of briefing the Committee Members, on the overview of the business park's workings and any future plans for park growth and to bring more hi-tech businesses to the area. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Abreu, Council President Lopes, Councillors Giesta, Lima, Baptiste and Carney, requesting, that the City of New Bedford look into establishing a Government Academy, similar to the program in Framingham, a six-week program where Citizens learn about the functions of

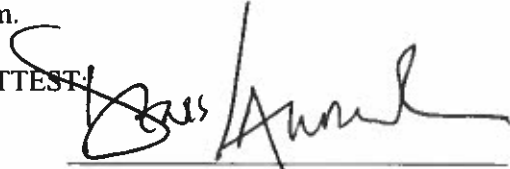
City government; and further, these classes would be taught by City leaders at no cost, also requesting, that a representative from the Administration be invited to attend a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to collaborate on how to move this process forward. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings.) (Ref'd 01/09/2020) (03/09/2020 – tabled) (9)

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to take "No Further Action" on the WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Abreu, Council President Lopes, Councillors Giesta, Lima, Baptiste and Carney, requesting, that the City of New Bedford look into establishing a Government Academy, similar to the program in Framingham, a six-week program where Citizens learn about the functions of City government; and further, these classes would be taught by City leaders at no cost, also requesting, that a representative from the Administration be invited to attend a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to collaborate on how to move this process forward. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

Councillor Giesta made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Lopes. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:28 p.m.

ATTEST:



Denis Lawrence, Jr.
Clerk of Committees