

**NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**DATE: MAY 10, 2021**  
**TIME: 7:02 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 BRIAN GOMES, CHAIRMAN (REMOTELY); HUGH DUNN, VICE-CHAIRMAN (REMOTELY); NAOMI CARNEY, (REMOTELY)**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLORS IAN ABREU; DEREK BAPTISTE**

\* \* \*

Councillor Gomes called the Internal Affairs Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read a Communication from Councillor Abreu explaining his absence from this meeting. This Communication was received and placed on file by Councillor Dunn and seconded by Councillor Carney. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 3, Nays 0, with Councillors Carney, yes, Dunn, yes and Gomes yes.

\* \* \*

Councillor Gomes called for a Moment of Silence for Police Sergeant Michael Cassidy who passed away from complications of COVID-19.

\* \* \*

Councillor Gomes explained to the Committee that this meeting was called to do some cleanup. There are seven (7) items on the agenda that do not need any action to be taken. He checked with his Colleagues to make sure, so he is looking to waive the reading, take "No Further Action" and report out to the full City Council.

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Dunn, the Committee VOTED: To follow the Chair's recommendation to waive the reading, take "No Further Action" and report out to the full City Council items one (1) through six (6). This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 3, Nays 0, with Councillors Carney, yes, Dunn, yes and Gomes, yes. They are as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Lopes, requesting, the Department of Public Infrastructure Commissioner Ronald Labelle provide this body with an update as it relates to the Route 18 Phase II project. (Ref'd 04/09/15) (09/17/15-tabled) (02/21/17-Referred to the Committee on Internal Affairs from the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods) (1)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Lopes, requesting, that as part of the Special Event Application for Fort Tabor Park, that a Traffic Enforcement Officer be required to patrol the area when one of the three parking lots are rented. (Ref'd 08/18/16) (02/21/17-Referred to the Committee on Internal Affairs from the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods) (2)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Lopes, Bousquet, Martins and Abreu, requesting, that the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods invite a representative from Murray Sign Company to the next Committee meeting to discuss providing the City of New Bedford with free public service announcements on their digital billboards located across the City, suggesting that people donate money to charity and not to the panhandlers. (Ref'd 09/22/16) (02/21/17- Referred to the Committee on Internal Affairs from the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods) (3)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Lopes, Rebeiro, Martins, Winterson, Bousquet and Alves, requesting that the Committee on Ordinances draft and approve an Ordinance that would exempt all City Council support staff from the City's policy requiring the Mayor's approval/signature on any requisition form or any other type of paperwork; and further, that the City Council President sign off on such positions; support staff is to include employees in the City Council Office, Clerk of Committees Office, and the position of City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council. (To be Referred to the Committee on Ordinances.) (Ref'd 08/20/15) (11/19/15-tabled) (01/26/16-tabled) (03/21/17- Referred to the Committee on Internal Affairs from the Committee on Ordinances) (4)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Rebeiro, Council President Lopes, and Councillors Winterson, Abreu, Carney, Coelho, Dunn, Martins, Gomes and Oliveira, requesting that the Committee on Internal Affairs meet with Attorney General Maura Healy and NOAA to discuss how current owners and mariners operating in New Bedford have the first right of refusal to acquire the licenses to be auctioned as result of the plea agreement in the case of The United States vs. Carlos Rafael, and that the sale come with the agreement of a partnership with the Economic Development Council, Workforce Investment Board and YouthBuild to develop apprenticeships and jobs to increase opportunity for women and minorities in New Bedford within this field; furthermore that Representatives from Economic Development Council, Workforce Investment Board, and YouthBuild along with Mariner Mr. Gus Santos and Harbor Development Commission Executive Director Edward Anthes-Washburn to be invited to said Committee meeting. (Ref'd 04/27/17) (5)

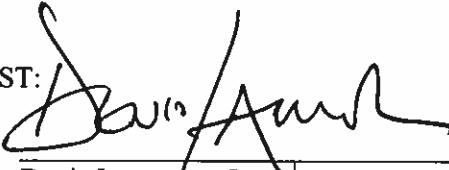
Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Rebeiro, requesting, that the Committee on Internal Affairs be updated on the City's construction projects, as to the status of hiring local women and minorities, included in this update should be a description of the recommended good faith outreach mechanism to be used for the hiring of New Bedford residents with a focus on minorities and women in the labor force; and further that similar data is requested for the contracting of local firms with a focus on minority and women-owned businesses on City's construction projects, this update should address what are the goals of the City of New Bedford's Compliance Office; how many positions have been filled on the sites throughout the City; what are the efforts being taken to hire locally by the Compliance Office for the City; furthermore, a listing of all the City's current construction projects and a projection of all construction projects within the next fiscal year should be included. (To be Referred to Eric Cohen, Compliance Officer; Richard Calderon, Assistant Purchasing Agent; Angela Johnston, Economic Development Council, Buddy Andrade, and Gus Santos.) (Ref'd 06/08/17) (08/09/17-tabled 45 days; sub-committee created: Councillors Abreu and Rebeiro, Richard Calderon, Eric Cohen, and August Santos) (6)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Gomes, requesting, that the Committee on Internal Affairs investigate and get a clear answer as to what happened to the 160 yellow pine beams stored at City-owned Quittacas Pond in Rochester worth hundreds of thousands of dollars to the City and the Ernestina Commission, which had been donated by the Dickinson Group, the developer of the former Fairhaven Mills, this donation was intended to assist in the restoration of the historical vessel, the Ernestina; and further, that the Committee meet with private investigator Ken Pittman along with someone from the Mayor's Administration, former Department of Public Infrastructure Commissioners and former Mayor Scott Lang, for the purposes of putting a together a timetable on when this disappearance occurred and where these beams are now located, who received them and also exactly when they were removed from Quittacas Pond in Rochester; and further, that the Committee on Internal Affairs also ask for a schedule of employees who had access to the keys during the time the wood went "missing", along with any other information the City can provide to the Committee in helping to narrow down who is responsible for this loss; and further, that the City Council request that the District Attorney's office investigate and look into the disappearance of State declared surplus to the City of this valuable wood which has vanished from City property. (To be Referred to the Committee on Internal Affairs and Waive Rule 40.) (Ref'd 12/13/18) (7)

Councillor Dunn made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Carney. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 3, Nays 0, with Councillors Carney, yes, Dunn, yes and Gomes, yes.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:07 p.m.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denis Lawrence, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Lawrence, Jr.,  
Clerk of Committees