



**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MEETING:** COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS  
**DATE:** MARCH 21, 2023  
**TIME:** 7:02 P.M.  
**PLACE:** CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214

**PRESENT:** COUNCILLORS NAOMI CARNEY, CHAIRPERSON; IAN ABREU; DEREK BAPTISTE; SHANE BURGO (7:11); MARIA GIESTA; BRIAN GOMES; SCOTT LIMA; WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY; LINDA MORAD (7:30); SHAWN OLIVER; RYAN PEREIRA

**ABSENT:** NO ONE

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Councillor Carney called the Appointments & Briefings Committee meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read a Communication from Councillor Morad into the record explaining her tardiness. The Communication was received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Giesta.

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Councillor Carney announced the start of Citizen's Input Time, not to exceed the first thirty (30) minutes of the meeting.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of CITIZEN'S INPUT TIME – Dr. Ely Dorsey, 6 Priscilla Street, New Bedford, 02740, speaking on “the increase in property tax and the impact on senior citizens” (Ref'd 01/17/2023) (02/13/2023 – tabled) and Filipa Melendez, 957 Glen Street, New Bedford, 02745, speaking on “taxes” (Ref'd 02/06/2023). (1, 1a, 1b)

Dr. Dorsey was not present; the matter remained on the table. Ms. Melendez was present and addressed the Committee; the matter was concluded.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a PUBLIC HEARING on an APPLICATION, Anthony Nieves Roman, d/b/a A&J Auto Group 2, LLC, for a SPECIAL PERMIT for Motor Vehicle Sales and/or Rentals and Light Service at 271 County Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 (Application Rec'd 02/10/2023) (Duly advertised in The Standard-Times on Tuesday, March 07, 2023 and Tuesday, March 14, 2023.) was received and placed on file by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Pereira. This motion passed on a voice vote. (2)

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To open the public hearing. This motion passed on a voice vote.

The Chair recognized the applicant, Mr. Anthony Nieves Roman, 92 Smith Street, New Bedford. Mr. Roman explained that he and his business partner operate a used auto business at 1025 County Street, near Hayden-McFadden School. They currently sell vehicles within the \$15,000 price-range. They have done well in this business and are looking to establish another used car operation at 271 County Street. They will be leasing the building from its current owner.

A series of questions were asked by Committee Members, in which the applicant provided the following responses: the hours of operation would be Monday through Friday, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, and on Saturdays from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm; they will have a total of 4-5 employees on site; the gas pumps on the property are still operational but it is not their intent to use them; they are primarily using the garage area for service and the lot area for sales; they intend to maintain the building, provide sufficient lighting and maintain the grassy area that abuts the property that will not be used as a part of their business; the work to be done on-site is to their own vehicles, and will include oil changes, brakes, general pre-sale and after-sale maintenance.

The Chair recognized Danny Romanowicz, Building Commissioner. Mr. Romanowicz was asked if the gas tanks would be an issue. He answered that they were not an issue or a concern; they had been replaced and were approximately three years old. He confirmed that they would not be used by the applicant.

Mr. Romanowicz verified that the property had the appropriate grease traps, etc. He agreed that 20 vehicles would fit in nicely in that area. He stated that he had no concerns and considered the proposal worthwhile.

The Chair asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak and/or be recorded in favor of the proposal. The Chair recognized Ms. Maria Correia, 53 Washington Street. Her home directly abuts the property. She stated that she is quite pleased with the improvements the applicants have made in preparation of establishing their business. It is clean, well lit, and the owners are respectful. She is in favor of granting the permit.

The Chair asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak and/or be recorded in opposition of the proposal. There were none.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To close the public hearing and recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION. This motion passed by a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of CHRISTINA E. COTSORIDIS, New Bedford, MA, to the AIRPORT COMMISSION; Ms. Cotsoridis will be replacing Paula Popeo who has resigned; this term will expire December 2024 (Ref'd 12/06/2022) (02/13/2023 – tabled) was received and placed on file by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Abreu. This motion passed on a voice vote. (3)

The Chair recognized Christina E. Cotsoridis, 36 Bismark Meadows, New Bedford, MA. Ms. Cotsoridis explained that she is a former employee of the City of New Bedford, and is currently working for the Town of Lakeville. She is seeking a way to continue to give back to the City and found that the Airport Commission would provide her with such an opportunity.

Ms. Cotsoridis was asked what she would bring to the Commission. She answered that she has an eye for efficiency, having established the City's Performance Management Program during her tenure in New Bedford. She also brings the ability to provide financial oversight.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Markey, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of CHRISTINA E. COTSORIDIS, New Bedford, MA, to the AIRPORT COMMISSION; Ms. Cotsoridis will be replacing Paula Popeo who has resigned; 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 MICHAEL J. PAIVA, New Bedford, MA to the TRAFFIC COMMISSION; Mr. Paiva will be replacing Ian Trombly, who has advised that he does not wish to be re-appointed, and whose term expired in December 2022; this term will expire in 2025 (Ref'd 02/09/2023) (Matter ID #0276) was received and placed on file by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Burgo. This motion passed on a voice vote. (4)

The Chair recognized Michael J. Paiva, 87 Atlantic Street, New Bedford. Mr. Paiva explained that he retired from the Police Department after 33 years of service. He is also a former member of the Massachusetts Police Association Board; he was a member for ten years. He is looking for a way to give back to the City and was offered a position on the Traffic Commission. He believes his past experience as an officer will be a good fit on the Commission.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Markey, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of MICHAEL J. PAIVA, New Bedford, MA to the TRAFFIC COMMISSION; Mr. Paiva will be replacing Ian Trombly, who has advised that he does not wish to be re-appointed, and whose term expired in December 2022; this term will expire in 2025. 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 YMANE GALOTTI, New Bedford, MA to the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS as an ALTERNATE MEMBER, Ms. Galotti will be replacing Horacio B. Tavares, whose term has expired in December 2020; this term will expire December 2025 (Ref'd 02/09/2023) (Matter ID #0277) was received and placed on file by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Burgo. This motion passed on a voice vote. (5)

The Chair recognized Ymane Galotti, 37 Ryan Street, New Bedford. Ms. Galotti explained that she is a former employee of the City of New Bedford, where she served as a Water Superintendent. She was looking for a way to serve her City and was asked if she would be interested in serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals. She found this to be a good balance with her work and home life.

Ms. Galotti was asked what skill-set she would bring to the position. She answered that she has an Engineering Degree and served as a Water Superintendent for 15 years.

Councillor Morad explained the importance of the position for which she has been recommended. She emphasized that this Commission affects not only the applicant, but those who abut the applicant. She hoped that Ms. Galotti, if approved, would be mindful of the lives that would be affected.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of YMANE GALOTTI, New Bedford, MA to the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS as an ALTERNATE MEMBER, Ms. Galotti will be replacing Horacio B. Tavares, whose term has expired in December 2020; this term will expire December 2025. 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 PATRICIA LANGIS, New Bedford, MA, to the COUNCIL ON AGING; Ms. Langis will be replacing Jacqueline K. Medeiros, who has resigned; this term will expire in November 2025 (Ref'd 02/23/2023) (Matter ID #0328) was received and placed on file by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Lima. This motion passed on a voice vote. (6)

The Chair recognized Ms. Patricia Langis, Taber Mill, New Bedford. Ms. Langis was present and was represented by Debra Lee, Director of the Council on Aging. Ms. Lee explained that prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, Ms. Langis worked for the Council on Aging and retired at the age of 84. Ms. Lee stated that Ms. Langis is very excited to be a member of the Council.

On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of PATRICIA LANGIS, New Bedford, MA, to the COUNCIL ON AGING; Ms. Langis will be replacing Jacqueline K. Medeiros, who has resigned; this term will expire in November 2025. 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 JAMES R. GAGNON, New Bedford, MA, to the VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD; Mr. Gagnon is replacing Anthony Resendes, who has resigned; this term will expire in December 2023 (Ref'd 02/23/2023) (Matter ID #0329) was received and placed on file by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Burgo. This motion passed on a voice vote. (7)

The applicant was not present.

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To table the matter at this time. 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 **Rose Guerdine Bazile, 505 Rivet Street, Apt 1, New Bedford, MA 02740, d/b/a R G SERVICES, LLC, 96 Worcester Street, New Bedford, MA 02745**, 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, 2023.**) (Ref'd 02/23/2023) was received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Giesta. This motion passed on a voice vote. (8)

The Chair recognized Ms. Rose Guerdine Bazile, 505 Rivet Street. Ms. Bazile explained that she has been in business in New Bedford since 2020 where she provides transportation, however, this is her first request for a Livery Permit.

Ms. Bazile was asked where she parks her company vehicles. She answered that she has a parking agreement with Howland Place at 651 Orchard Street.

On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Markey, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION, on behalf of **Rose Guerdine Bazile, 505 Rivet Street, Apt 1, New Bedford, MA 02740, d/b/a R G SERVICES, LLC, 96 Worcester Street, New Bedford, MA 02745**, 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, 2023.) This motion passed on a voice vote.

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The following items were taken up together without objection. They were received and placed on file by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Pereira. This motion passed on a voice vote. The items are as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **ANASTASIOS KOLITSIS, 82 Amanda Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02745 d/b/a ANASTASIOS LLC, 82 Amanda Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02745**, 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, 2023.) (Ref'd 03/09/2023). (9)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **ANASTASIOS KOLITSIS, 82 Amanda Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02745 d/b/a ANASTASIOS LLC, 82 Amanda Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02745**, 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 01, 2023 to June 30, 2024.) (Ref'd 03/09/2023). (10)

The applicant was not present.

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

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On motion by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To follow the Chair's recommendation and Waive the Reading, take No Further Action and Report Out to the Full City Council on items 11 and 11a. This motion passed on a voice vote. The items are as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Gomes, Baptiste, Giesta, Carney, Morad and Markey, requesting, that the City Council go on record against granting any zoning change, or the establishment of the proposed downtown Recovery Connection Centers of America at 268-270 Union Street; and further, that the City Council work with the owners of the Recovery Connection Centers of America to assist them in finding a location for their proposed services (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, the Zoning Board of Appeals, with a letter to the ZBA stating that the Council is against any zoning change and that Rule 40 be Waived.) (Ref'd 10/13/2022). (11)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Michael J. Livingstone, Esq. to the New Bedford City Council regarding the ZBA Application concerning 268-272 Union Street (Ref'd 10/13/2022). (11a)

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Councillor Burgo made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Oliver.  
This motion passed on a voice vote.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Denis Lawrence Jr.  
Clerk of the Committees