

REGULAR MEETING
Chambers of the City Council
Thursday, January 09, 2025

CITY COUNCIL
Municipal Building
7:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Burgo, Councillors Abreu, Carney, Choquette, Giesta, Gomes, Lopes, Morad, Oliver and Pereira.

LATE: Councillor Baptiste (7:04 p.m.)
ABSENT: No one

Council President Burgo called the meeting to order and presided.

Prayer led by: Father David Lupo, Our Lady of the Assumption Church

Councillor Carney led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

NOTE: THIS MEETING IS BEING LIVE STREAMED AND RECORDED.
CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS CAN BE VIEWED ON THE
CITY OF NEW BEDFORD'S HOMEPAGE UNDER QUICK LINKS, THEN MEETINGS.

AN ORDINANCE, amending Chapter 19, Section 19-7 (c) PERSONNEL, by inserting the title
“Supervisor of Local Building Inspectors” at a pay grade of M-6.
Referred to the Committee on Ordinances – September 12, 2024
Passed to a Second . (Councillor Morad OPPOSED) – November 26, 2024.
Passed to be Ordained - Yeas 9, Nays 1. (Councillor Morad OPPOSED; Councillor Baptiste not
present for vote.)
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#1426)

REPORT, Committee on Appointments and Briefings, recommending to the City Council
APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of ROSEMARY M. SABER, New Bedford, MA to the LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, replacing Helen Rogers, who has resigned; this term will expire April 2026.
Recommendation Followed. (#0006)

COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of
ROSEMARY M. SABER, New Bedford, MA to the LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, replacing
Helen Rogers, who has resigned; this term will expire April 2026.
Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings – November 26, 2024.
Appointment Confirmed and Rule 40 Waived – Yeas 11, Nays 0. (#2007)

REPORT, Committee on Appointments and Briefings, recommending to the City Council
APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of GLEN G. CHANDLER, New Bedford, MA to the LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, replacing Elsie R. Fraga, who has resigned; this term will expire April 2026.
Recommendation Followed. (#0007)

COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of
GLEN G. CHANDLER, New Bedford, MA to the LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, replacing Elsie
R. Fraga, who has resigned; this term will expire April 2026.
Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings – November 26, 2024.
Appointment Confirmed and Rule 40 Waived – Yeas 11, Nays 0. (#2008)

REPORT, Committee on Appointments and Briefings, recommending to the City Council
APPROVAL of the APPLICATION for the APPOINTMENT of GREGORY MICHAEL SAUCIER,
New Bedford, MA as a CONSTABLE.
Recommendation Followed. (#0008)

AN APPLICATION,
Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings – November 26, 2024.
Appointment Confirmed. (#2013)

REPORT, Committee on Appointments and Briefings, recommending to the City Council
APPROVAL of the APPLICATION for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of **ANA L.
VALENTIN BURGOS, 627 Allen Street, New Bedford, MA, d/b/a GERANA'S
TRANSPORTATION, INC., 211 Weld Street, New Bedford, MA. (License to Expire June 30, 2025.)**
Recommendation Followed. (#0009)

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, submitting an
APPLICATION for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of **ANA L. VALENTIN
BURGOS, 627 Allen Street, New Bedford, MA, d/b/a GERANA'S TRANSPORTATION, INC., 211
Weld Street, New Bedford, MA. (License to Expire June 30, 2025.)**
Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings – September 12, 2024
Referred back to the Committee on Appointments & Briefings – November 26, 2024.
Livery License Granted.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025
Approved January 21, 2025. (#1446)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN
ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic
design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Sgt. William Carney Memorial
Academy** located at **247 Elm Street**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0010)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1825)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN
ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic
design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Elwyn G. Campbell
Elementary School** located at **145 Essex Street**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0011)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1827)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN
ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic
design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Alfred J. Gomes Elementary
School** located at **286 South Second Street**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0012)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1829)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN
ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic
design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Carlos Pacheco Elementary
School** located at **261 Mount Pleasant Street**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0013)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1831)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Ellen R. Hathaway** located at **256 Court Street**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0014)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1833)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Hayden-McFadden Elementary School** located at **361 Cedar Grove Street**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0015)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1835)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Casimir Pulaski Elementary School** located at **1097 Braley Road**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0016)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1837)

REPORT, Committee on Finance, recommending to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN ORDER, appropriating \$150,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a schematic design and feasibility study for the proposed roof replacement project at **Whaling City Jr./Sr. High School** located at **455 County Street**.
Recommendation Followed. (#0017)

LOAN ORDER,
Referred to the Committee on Finance – November 14, 2024.
Passed to a Second Reading. (#1839)

WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Lopes, requesting, that the City of New Bedford Traffic Commission replace the faded out “NO PARKING THIS SIDE OF STREET” signs on Lake Street.
Referred to the Traffic Commission. (#0018)

WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Lopes and Morad, requesting, on behalf of Joseph O'Neil, owner of Medicare Help 65, located at 375 Rockdale Avenue, that the Traffic Commission consider the installation of a Handicapped Parking spot in front of said business. (Letter from property owner giving permission to install a Handicap Parking spot enclosed.)
Referred to the Traffic Commission. (#0019)

WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Choquette, Oliver and Abreu, requesting, that the City Council accept and adopt the provisions of the HERO ACT, passed by the Governor and General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, specifically with respect to tax exemptions outlined for disabled veterans.

Referred to the Committee on Ordinances. (#0020)

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, submitting an Application for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of **JOAO FILIPE DE SA RAMOS, 316 Davis Street, New Bedford, MA d/b/a JSR TRANSPORTATION LLC, 316 Davis Street, Apt. 3, New Bedford, MA. (License to expire – June 30, 2025.)**

Livery License Granted.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0021)

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, submitting an Application for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of **JUNIOR L. MORPEAU, 152 Allen Street, New Bedford, MA d/b/a JM&V, 152 Allen Street, New Bedford, MA. (License to expire – June 30, 2025.)**

Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings. (#0022)

COMMUNICATION, Councillors Giesta and Morad, submitting a PETITION of opposition relating to the 15 year lease agreement of the Homer’s Wharf parking area to the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center.

Referred to the Committee on City Property. (#0023)

COMMUNICATION, Councillor Gomes, submitting a copy of a letter sent to the New Bedford YMCA relating to two complaints filed with the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities regarding accessibility issues, and a report of the Commission’s subsequent review.

Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Neighborhoods. (#0024)

COMMUNICATION, Councillor Morad, to the New Bedford Economic Development Council, submitting a letter in support of the Cape Verdean Association of New Bedford’s Island Park application for a Wicked Cool Places Grant.

Received and Placed on File. (#0025)

COMMUNICATION, Councillor Morad, submitting a letter in support of the Cape Verdean Association of New Bedford’s application for a Mass Cultural Council Facilities Capital Grant to revitalize the Strand Theatre.

Received and Placed on File. (#0026)

CONSTABLE BOND, SHAWN OLIVER, New Bedford, MA 02746, in the amount of \$5,000.00, with Western Surety Company.

Approved.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0027)

CONSTABLE BOND, JONATHAN SOUSA MELO, New Bedford, MA 02745, in the amount of \$5,000.00, with Western Surety Company.

Approved.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0028)

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to the City Council, notifying that the Office of the City Clerk has received Meeting Minutes from the Community Preservation Committee for a meeting held on October 22, 2024; the Board of Health for a meeting held on December 11, 2024; the Library Board of Trustees for meetings held on July 02, 2024 and September 24, 2024; and the GNB Regional Refuse Management District for a meeting held on October 24, 2024.

Received and Placed on File. (#0029)

APPLICATION, **TD Design & Development Corp.**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION at **Plot 72 / Lot 303, ws State Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 16, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0030)

APPLICATION, **Dirty Diggin Construction LLC** for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION at **24 - 26 Wing Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 10, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0031)

APPLICATIONS, **R.J. Canessa Excavating Co.**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 16, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

160 & 154 Hapwell Street (#0032)

16 Washburn Street (#0033)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATION, **R.J. Canessa Excavating Co.**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION at **1936 Shawmut Avenue (124C – 57)**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 18, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0034)

APPLICATIONS, **Soil X Corp.**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 23, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

Wing Street, from 4 to 18, both sides of street (#0035)

Purchase Street, from 323 to 404, both sides of street (#0036)

Acushnet Avenue, from 153 to 181, both sides of street (#0037)

16 Bedford Street to 182 Acushnet Avenue, south side of street (#0038)

Griffin Street to Bay Village, both sides of street (#0039)

Howland Street to Bay Village, both sides of street (#0040)

200 Second Street to Griffin Street, both sides of street (#0041)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATION, **JLC Construction**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION at **28 Pearl Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 27, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0042)

APPLICATION, **JLC Construction**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION at **209 State Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 30, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0043)

APPLICATION, **R.J. Canessa Excavating Co.**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION at **233 Wood Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 30, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0044)

APPLICATION, **W.C. Smith & Son, Inc.**, for permission to maintain a STREET OBSTRUCTION at **Hapwell Street (ss) 60' w x Nashua Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on January 03, 2025, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0045)

APPLICATION, **Dirty Diggin Construction LLC**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, of **24 – 26 Wing Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 10, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0046)

APPLICATIONS, **R.J. Canessa Excavating Co.**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 16, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

160 & 154 Hapwell Street (#0046a)
16 Washburn Street (#0047)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATION, **R.J. Canessa Excavating Co.**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, of **1936 Shawmut Avenue (124C – 57)**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 18, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0048)

APPLICATIONS, **Soil X Corp.**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 23, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

Wing Street, from 4 to 18, both sides of street	(#0049)
Purchase Street, from 323 to 404, both sides of street	(#0050)
Acushnet Avenue, from 153 to 181, both sides of street	(#0051)
16 Bedford Street to 182 Acushnet Avenue, south side of street	(#0052)
Griffin Street to Bay Village, both sides of street	(#0053)
Howland Street to Bay Village, both sides of street	(#0054)
200 Second Street to Griffin Street, both sides of street	(#0055)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATION, **JLC Construction**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, of **28 Pearl Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 27, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0056)

APPLICATION, **JLC Construction**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, of **209 State Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 30, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0057)

APPLICATION, **R.J. Canessa Excavating Co.**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, of **233 Wood Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 30, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0058)

APPLICATION, **W.C. Smith & Son, Inc.**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, of **Hapwell Street (ss) 60' w x Nashua Street**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on January 03, 2025, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025. (#0059)

APPLICATIONS, **Eversource Gas**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 10, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

8 Mulberry Street, Rivet Street – Larch Street (working in the street)	(#0060)
59 Brewster Street, Acushnet Avenue – Belleville Avenue (working in street and street to house)	(#0061)
186 – 188 Branscomb Street, Orleans Street – Waldo Street (working in street)	(#0062)
72 Willis Street, Summer Street – County Street (working in the street)	(#0063)
59 Brigham Street, corner property with Ryan Street (working in sidewalk on Ryan Street side)	(#0064)
81 Moss Street, Butler Street – Apponagansett Street (working in the street)	(#0065)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.
Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.
Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATIONS, **Eversource Gas**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 11, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

174 Ash Street, Union Street – Arnold Street	(#0066)
44 Carroll Street, Brigham Street – Brownell Street	(#0067)
100 Bates Street, Merrill Street – Ernest Street	(#0068)
1099 Tobey Street, Sassaquin Avenue – Tobey Lane	(#0069)
40 Oaklawn Street, Brock Avenue – Rodney French Boulevard	(#0070)
9 Salisbury Street, Cove Street – Rith Street (working in street and street to house)	

(#0071)

245 Central Avenue, Ashley Boulevard – Brook Street (#0072)

19 Linden Street, Pleasant Street – Purchase Street (#0073)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATIONS, **Eversource Gas**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 18, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

27 Cedar Street	(#0074)
765 Church Street	(#0075)
229 Coffin Avenue	(#0076)
63 Union Street	(#0077)
110 Whitman Street	(#0078)
Ashley Boulevard, from Phillips Avenue to Coffin Avenue	(#0079)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATIONS, **Eversource Gas**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on December 20, 2024, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council as follows:

216 Church Street	(#0080)
223 Kempton Street	(#0081)
997 Lloyd Street	(#0082)
40 Milford Street	(#0083)

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025.

APPLICATION, **Eversource Gas**, to DISTURB THE SURFACE, of **Orchard Street, east side, opposite of Swift Street, to the sidewalk**, provisionally granted by the City Clerk on January 03, 2025, subject to ratification by the Mayor and City Council.

Received and Action of the City Clerk Ratified.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0084)

PETITION, NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for RELOCATION of one FO Pole with anchor approximately 17' north of existing location in PURCHASE STREET, this work is necessary for MassDOT project 606527.

Received and Placed on File. (#0085)

AN ORDER,

Adopted and ordered recorded.

Presented to the Mayor for approval January 13, 2025.

Approved January 21, 2025. (#0086)

PETITION, NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for location of one new Manhole and approximately 38' of Conduit in NORTH WATER STREET, this work is necessary to provide electric service to 89 North Water Street.

Received and Hearing Ordered for Thursday, January 23, 2025.

On a motion, the Council then adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

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