



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS
DATE: JULY 22, 2025
TIME: 7:02 P.M.
PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214

PRESENT: COUNCILLORS NAOMI CARNEY, CHAIR; IAN ABREU;
DEREK BAPTISTE; SHANE BURGO; LEO CHOQUETTE;
BRIAN GOMES; SHAWN OLIVER; RYAN PEREIRA

ABSENT: COUNCILLORS MARIA GUESTA; JOSEPH LOPES;
LINDA MORAD

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Councillor Carney called the Appointments & Briefings Committee meeting to order, took attendance, and explained that the meeting was being recorded and live-streamed. The Clerk read Communications into the record from Councillors Giesta, Lopes and Morad explaining their absences. The Communications were received and placed on file by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Oliver.

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CITIZEN'S INPUT TIME – Not to exceed the first thirty (30) minutes of the meeting.

Joseph Quigley, 192 Walnut Street, #8, New Bedford, 02740, speaking on “Tenant Perspectives”. (Referred – June 23, 2025.)

The Chair recognized Joseph Quigley, who spoke of lower income people being forced out of rental units so that landlords may charge higher rental fees from new tenants. He shared that he knows of residents who have lost their homes due to the financial decisions made by rental companies, primarily LLCs. Mr. Quigley stated that this is a very real issue, as he himself has twice been evicted for this very reason. He added that it is not fair to distinguish between those who have and those who have not.

Mr. Quigley exceeded his allotted time to speak during Citizen's Input Time. The Chair suggested that a Motion be made to refer the matter to the Special Committee on Housing, so that the discussion may continue.

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee **VOTED:** To refer the matter to the Special Committee on Housing.

Councillor Abreu informed Mr. Quigley that he was the Chair of the Special Committee on Housing and that his next meeting was scheduled for September.

Citizen's Input Time was concluded.

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The following matters were taken up together, without objection:

PETITION, **Marc DeCambra, Taunton, MA d/b/a SIDE QUEST COMPLETE LLC, 127 West Rodney French Boulevard, New Bedford, MA**, requesting 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 SECONDHAND ARTICLES**. (Matter ID #1038) (Referred – June 12, 2025.)

PETITION, **Justin Williamson, Somerset, MA d/b/a SIDE QUEST COMPLETE LLC, 127 West Rodney French Boulevard, New Bedford, MA**, requesting 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 SECONDHAND ARTICLES**. (Matter ID #1154) (Referred June 26, 2025)

The Chair recognized both applicants, Marc DeCambra and Justin Williamson, who explained they were in the process of establishing a business that would buy and sell secondhand goods such as collectibles, video games and other items. The business would be similar to an eBay business, but with a location that can be visited. The business will be located at Kilburn Mill.

Councillor Pereira congratulated the applicants on opening a business in New Bedford. He asked that given the location of the building, they be mindful of traffic, especially when loading and offloading merchandise. The applicants stated they would.

Councillor Abreu asked if they would be employing additional individuals. He was told that initially it would just be the two of them, although they hoped to be successful enough to expand. He asked if the business would be open on weekdays. He was told for now it would be a weekend business only. They hoped to be successful enough to make their positions full-time, allowing for weekday operations.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the PETITION, **Marc DeCambra, Taunton, MA d/b/a SIDE QUEST COMPLETE LLC, 127 West Rodney French Boulevard, New Bedford, MA**, requesting 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 SECONDHAND ARTICLES** and APPROVAL of the PETITION, **Justin Williamson, Somerset, MA d/b/a SIDE QUEST COMPLETE LLC, 127 West Rodney French Boulevard, New Bedford, MA**, requesting 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 SECONDHAND ARTICLES**.

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COMMUNICATION (Matter ID #1020) and AN APPLICATION (Matter ID #1021), submitted by Mayor Mitchell, for the APPOINTMENT of ANTWAUN DONYEH MURPHY, New Bedford, MA, as a CONSTABLE. (Referred – June 12, 2025.)

The Chair recognized Antwaun Donyeh Murphy, 217 Maple Street, New Bedford, MA. Mr. Murphy stated that he is presently employed in security and fraud for the New Bedford Housing Authority. He is asking for approval of his Constable application because the Constable now employed by the Housing Authority is retiring, and Mr. Murphy was asked to obtain a Constable license.

Councillor Oliver asked Mr. Murphy if he was approved, would he extend his Constable service beyond the Housing Authority. Mr. Murphy answered yes. Councillor Oliver said the position of Constable really had no training manual, it is more of a learn as you go situation. He suggested that Mr. Murphy reach out to the court system as they have guidelines which would help him understand his duties, and also suggested that Mr. Murphy be mindful of those he would be interacting with.

Councillor Baptiste spoke in favor of the request, stating he has known Mr. Murphy for over 25 years and he is an upstanding, well-respected person in the community.

On motion by Councillor Oliver and seconded by Councillor Baptiste, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of ANTWAUN DONYEH MURPHY, New Bedford, MA, as a CONSTABLE.

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MOTOR VEHICLE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION, Adriano Vicente, 58 Willard Street, New Bedford, MA, d/b/a AV AUTO SALES, 1532 Cove Road, New Bedford, MA 02744 for a **MOTOR VEHICLE SPECIAL PERMIT** for Auto Sales and/or Rentals.

This motion was not read.

On motion by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Oliver, the Committee VOTED: To waive the reading and recommend that the City Council take **“NO FURTHER ACTION”** on the MOTOR VEHICLE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION, Adriano Vicente, 58 Willard Street, New Bedford, MA, d/b/a AV AUTO SALES, 1532 Cove Road, New Bedford, MA 02744 for a **MOTOR VEHICLE SPECIAL PERMIT** for Auto Sales and/or Rentals.

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Councillor Abreu made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councillor Choquette.

This meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

Denis Lawrence Jr.
Clerk of Committees