

JOINT CONVENTION MEETING
Chambers of the City Council
Wednesday, January 21, 2026

CITY COUNCIL
Municipal Building
7:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Abreu, Councillor Derek Baptiste, Councillor Shane Burgo, Councillor Naomi Carney, Councillor Leo Choquette, School Committee Member Melissa Costa, School Committee Member Christopher Cotter, Councillor Brian Gomes, School Committee Member Joaquim Livramento Jr., Councillor Joseph Lopes, Mayor Jonathan Mitchell, School Committee Member Vonmarie Moniz, Councillor Shawn Oliver, Councillor Scott Pemberton, Councillor Ryan Pereira, School Committee Member Richard Porter III and Councillor James Roy.

LATE: No one.

ABSENT: No one.

Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell, Chairman of the Joint Convention, called the meeting to order and presided.

Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell 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.

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council Dennis W. Farias, to the City Council, giving notification of the continuation of the Joint Convention of the City Council and School Committee to be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Room 214, City Hall, for the purpose of electing a new School Committee member to fill the vacancy resulting from the recent passing of Bruce Oliveira.

Received and Placed on File. (#0098)

COMMUNICATION, Henry Bousquet informing the Joint Convention Members that he is withdrawing his name from consideration for the position of School Committee Member.

Received and Placed on File. (#0099)

At this time the Joint Convention of the City Council and School Committee of the Election of a New School Committee Member continued:

Roll Call Nominations Ballot No. 1 was conducted, with the following results recorded:

- Councillor Abreu voted for William Brad Markey
- Councillor Baptiste voted for Marcus Coward.
- Councillor Burgo voted for Marcus Coward.
- Councillor Carney voted for William Brad Markey.
- Councillor Choquette voted for William Brad Markey.
- School Committee member Costa voted for Marcus Coward.
- School Committee member Cotter voted for William Brad Markey.
- Councillor Gomes voted for Marcus Coward.
- School Committee member Livramento voted for Marcus Coward.
- Councillor Joseph Lopes voted for William Brad Markey.
- Mayor Mitchell voted for William Brad Markey.
- School Committee member Moniz voted for Marcus Coward.
- Councillor Oliver voted for William Brad Markey.
- Councillor Pemberton voted for William Brad Markey.
- Councillor Pereira voted for William Brad Markey.
- School Committee member Porter voted for Marcus Coward.
- Councillor Roy voted for Marcus Coward.

Results from Ballot No. 1:

- Marcus Coward received eight (8) votes.
- William Brad Markey received nine (9) votes.

A majority was achieved on Ballot No. 1.

William Brad Markey was elected School Committee member and sworn in by City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council Dennis W. Farias.

On a motion, the Council then adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

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