



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**MEETING: SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL PERMITS
& LICENSING**

DATE: MAY 11, 2026

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS IAN ABREU, CHAIR; LEO
CHOQUETTE; JOSEPH LOPES; SCOTT
PEMBERTON**

ABSENT: COUNCILLORS NAOMI CARNEY

Councillor Abreu called the Special Committee on Special Permits & Licensing meeting to order, took attendance, and explained that the meeting was being recorded and live-streamed. The Clerk read a Communication into the record from Councillor Carney explaining her tardiness. The Communication was received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Choquette.

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, submitting an Application for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of Ana Liz Valentin Burgos, 627 Allen Street, New Bedford, MA d/b/a **GERANA'S TRANSPORTATION, INC.**, 211 Weld Street, New Bedford, MA. **(Term of License July 01, 2026 – June 30, 2027.)** (Matter ID # 0368) (Referred – March 26, 2026.)

The Chair recognized the applicant, who explained that she was seeking to operate a transportation service for school and daycare children.

Councillor Lopes asked how many vans would be in operation, and he was informed that there would be three vans. Two would be stored at 456 Mill Street, and the other at 627 Adams Street. Ms. Valentin Burgos further stated that the business would not provide airport or medical transport services.

Councillor Abreu asked how many people she would employ. Ms. Valentin Burgos replied in addition to herself, she would need to hire two additional drivers.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Pemberton, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of Ana Liz Valentin Burgos, 627 Allen Street, New Bedford, MA d/b/a **GERANA'S TRANSPORTATION, INC.**, 211 Weld Street, New Bedford, MA.

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, submitting an Application for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of Maria DePina, 28 Windsor Circle, Brockton, MA and Maria L. Pires, 60 Foster Street, Brockton, MA, d/b/a **SISTER EXPRESS TRANSPORT**, 109 Robeson Street, New Bedford, MA. **(Term of License July 01, 2026 – June 30, 2027.)** (Matter ID #0453) (Referred – April 09, 2026.)

The applicants were not present.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Choquette, the Committee VOTED: To table the matter at this time.

The following items were taken up together, without objection:

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, submitting a PETITION, **Paul N. Bryant, Round Rock, TX d/b/a FALL RIVER PAWNBROKERS, 1351 Acushnet Avenue, 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 #0539) (Referred – April 23, 2026.)

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, submitting a PETITION, **Paul N. Bryant, Round Rock, TX d/b/a FALL RIVER PAWNBROKERS, 268 Union Street, 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 #0540) (Referred – April 23, 2026.)

The Chair recognized the applicant, who explained that he is a former resident of Texas who has since relocated to Massachusetts. He stated that he purchased the Fall River Pawn Broker properties, including two located in New Bedford. Because he resides outside the City, he is required to obtain a residency waiver, which is why he appeared before the Committee this evening.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Choquette, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the PETITIONS for the WAIVER OF RESIDENCY, on behalf of **Paul N. Bryant, Round Rock, TX d/b/a FALL RIVER PAWNBROKERS, 1351 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, MA**, and **d/b/a FALL RIVER PAWNBROKERS, 268 Union Street, 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**.

Councillor Lopes made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Pemberton.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

ATTEST:

Denis Lawrence, Jr.
Clerk of Committees