

90.

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held on Monday July 15, 2019 in the City Council Chambers, 2nd floor of City Hall, 45 School St., Brockton, MA. Councillor Rodrigues presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:38pm with eleven members present.

Councillor Farwell asks for a moment of silence for the Late Mayor Bill Carpenter. The reason for this Special Meeting tonight is to elect a Mayor, due to the mayor's passing. The City suffered a loss of our Chief Executive. He was a relatively young man who served the city. A lot of people felt a deep affection for the mayor.

May his soul rest in peace.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BROCKTON CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

Council Chambers, 2nd. Floor, City Hall,
45 School St., Brockton, MA
Monday July 15, 2019
6:30pm

1. Call of the meeting

Accepted and placed on file.

2, Officer's Return of Notice.

Accepted and placed on file.

3. Election of Mayor to fill the unexpired term. The City Council shall elect by majority vote, one of its members as Mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term of deceased Mayor Bill Carpenter.

All other related matters

The Council President turns the meeting over to the City Clerk.

The City Clerk welcomes everyone. He takes a moment to explain to everyone in the chambers and on t.v. that this is not a temporary position. Whoever is elected, they will have the full power and duties of the Mayor. They will need to abide by the Ordinances of Brockton and the laws of MA. It is a very important decision and should not be taken lightly.

The time has arrived to open nominations by the City Clerk.

Councillor Farwell motioned to nominate Council President Moises M. Rodrigues as Mayor and was properly seconded by Councillor Cruise.

Councillor Cruise motioned to close nominations and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

Councillor Farwell takes a moment of personal privilege to state that he served as Mayor and the Mayor elect will have a difficult task. He will immediately have to console a staff, who rightfully are sad and demoralized as they have lost their leader. Councillor Rodrigues will have to deal with grief. As City Council, sometimes it is hard to make the right decision, because there are competing interests, but in this case, he believes he is making the right decision. As Council President, Councillor Rodrigues met with the Mayor weekly. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy, served under the administration of Mayor Harrington, he is knowledgeable in municipal government and municipal finance. He worked with the youth at St. Edith Stein, which is absolutely essential for our residents and also for our young people. For all of those reasons, it isn't because he is Cape Verdean, or because he is ethnically or culturally different, that he nominated Councillor Rodrigues.

Councillor Farwell made a decision that is right, a decision on the man, Moises Rodrigues and he is very proud of him.

Councillor Derenoncourt takes a moment of personal privilege to state that unfortunately, the Mayor passed away. Councillor at Large for the whole city, Moises Rodrigues, has the ability. His vote is not based on race or culture, but what is right. The job is time consuming, but all the council will be behind him.

Councillor Nicastro takes a moment of personal privilege to state that as choosing a mayor, she has a few questions. She asked if he would run for mayor in the next election?

Councillor Rodrigues stated that he has no intention for running for mayor.

Councillor Nicastro asked if he would devote his full time to being mayor in these next six months and can he take a leave of absence or otherwise askewing his full time employment from his employer at this time?

Councillor Rodrigues stated that he has preliminary discussions with his employer and they are willing to give him the time to do this.

Councillor Nicastro stated that is good for the City and asked if Councillor Rodrigues could give a brief description of his goals and priorities as mayor?

Councillor Rodrigues stated that after the vote, he will share his views.

Councillor Sullivan takes a moment of personal privilege to state that this is a sad day. Bill Carpenter was buried. All politics aside, a 62 year old man passed away leaving his family, friends and co workers. He was a father and grandfather. He was fairly young and he was the mayor. It is a happy day for the council to do their city business and do the correct thing to elect a new mayor. This is a historic vote. The situation happened about 70 years ago with Mayor Downey. It is time to move forward for the city. He stated that Moises Rodrigues is a friend and colleague. As a council, they need to move forward and do what is right for the mayor's staff and the city and he believes it is voting for Councillor Rodrigues. He is proud of Moises Rodrigues and says thank you and God bless.

Councillor Eaniri takes a moment of personal privilege to state as dean of the City Council, on election of the Council President to be Mayor, that Councillor Rodrigues sat with Councillor Eaniri so Councillor Eaniri could show him how the process works. Councillor Rodrigues followed Councillor Eaniri's lead by meeting with the mayor every few weeks, as Councillor Eaniri did. Councillor Eaniri is concerned about the people in the office, Mayor Carpenter's staff.

Councillor Lally stepped down.

Councillor Eaniri stated that Councillor Rodrigues will have to move from one branch of government to another.

Councillor Asack takes a moment of personal privilege to state that she is proud of Council President Rodrigues and looks forward to working with him as mayor.

Councillor Lally stepped back in.

Council President Moises Rodrigues was elected as Mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term of deceased Mayor Bill Carpenter, by a roll call vote taken with eleven members being present and all voting for Councillor Moises Rodrigues.

Councillor Sullivan motioned to file for reconsideration with the wish that it not prevail and was properly seconded by Councillor Asack. Reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

Councillor Farwell asked for a recess, so that Moises Rodrigues may be sworn in and sign the oath book.

Five minute recess at 6:54pm

Back in session at 7:00pm

The City Clerk swears in Moises Rodrigues as Mayor.

Mayor Moises Rodrigues, thanks everyone for coming. He thanks his colleagues in government for putting their faith in him. He has not prepared a speech, he is speaking from the heart. He thanks his family, both in the community and especially his wife. He stated that someone from council will be moving downstairs, so that guarantees that they will work together. He stated that he has no intention of letting any of the staff go in the Mayor's Office. They will work together for the good of the people of the city. The taxpayers aren't paying for the councilors to come and hang out. They have a job to do and the taxpayers expect them to do it. The events over the past few weeks have been difficult for everybody, if not directly, then by what happened after it. As a citizen of the city it is important that we put our differences aside. He will be the Mayor for the six months, but intends to run for council after that time, so don't forget to go out and vote. He thanked all for attending and hopes to see them using the building and coming to the meetings. It is their City Hall to enjoy as taxpayers. He urges everyone to come together to make Brockton an even better city than it already is.

The City Clerk called a recess, in order to come back to vote on the new Council President for the remainder of the year 2019 at 7:07pm.

Back in session 7:15pm.

Councillor Asack absent.

The City Clerk opened nominations for election of Council President for the remainder of 2019.

Councillor Farwell nominated Councillor Robert F. Sullivan and was properly seconded by Councillor Lally. There being no other nominations, Councillor Cruise moved to close nominations and the motion was properly seconded by Councillor Monahan. Councillor Sullivan received nine votes. Councillor Sullivan was declared the duly elected President of the City Council for the remainder of 2019. Councillor Asack absent.

Councillor Cruise motioned to file for reconsideration with the wish that it not prevail and was properly seconded. Reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

Council President Sullivan said a few words. He stated that he was honored to be elected. He has been Council President in 2008, 2014, 2017 and acting Council President for Councillor Eaniri last year when he was out with surgery. He is honored to be President of the Council. He stated he would see Mayor Rodrigues tomorrow to meet with him, to keep up things moving in the right direction. He stated that they will go right into Finance Committee Meeting, where he is chairman.

Adjourned at 7:38pm