

A regular meeting of the City Council was held on Monday February 24, 2020 in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor of City Hall, 45 School St., Brockton, MA, President Asack presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM with ten members present. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 111 Acceptance of the minutes of the February 10, 2020 City Council meeting

Accepted and placed on file

REPORT

- 112 Of the Finance Committee for its meeting of February 18, 2020

Accepted and placed on file

APPOINTMENTS

- 113 Of Noubé Rateau of 14 Madrid Sq., Unit #2, Brockton, MA to the Brockton Community Cable Television Board for a three-year term ending February 2023.

Referred to Finance

- 114 Of Paul Studenski, Jr. of 48 Carlisle St., Brockton, MA as an Alternate to the Brockton License Commission for a three-year term ending February 2023.

Referred to Finance

Councilor Eaniri made a motion to take items #115, 116 & 117 collectively and under suspension the rules. Councilor Rodrigues stated that if Sergeant Perez's promotion is approved, it will make her the highest-ranking female in Brockton. Councilor Rodrigues stated he was not against the promotion but would like to invite her to this body to be introduced to the community, if approved. Councilor Eaniri withdrew his motion and reminded councilors that they should not pick and choose who comes before council.

- 115 Promotion of Matthew Graham to rank of Temporary Sergeant in the Brockton Police Department.

Referred to Finance

- 116 Promotion of Michael Skinner to rank of Permanent Sergeant in the Brockton Police Department.

Referred to Finance

- 117 Promotion of Sergeant Brenda Perez to rank of Temporary Lieutenant in the Brockton Police Department.

Referred to Finance

HEARINGS

Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. requesting permission to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as said Companies may deem necessary to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, in the following public way or ways: Thatcher St.: Install 1 pole on Thatcher St beginning at a point approx. 1255 ft Southeast of the centerline of the intersection of Park Way and Thatcher St and continuing approx. 79ft in a Southeast direction.

27.
HEARINGS (CONT'D)

Ryan Moskis from National Grid appeared in favor. Mr. Moskis said the two pole installations are part of the Massachusetts Grid Modernization project. He stated they are looking to install smart monitors on poles to monitor feeder performance, which will allow access to real time data and outage and restoration information. These monitors need to be installed before the first transformer right outside of the substation and are needed for both the Thatcher and Manley St. locations.

Councilor Nicastro asked when will this work be done. Mr. Moskis didn't know specifically but said it required to be completed by April 1, 2020. Councilor Nicastro asked how this would impact traffic. Mr. Moskis said this shouldn't be an issue with a police detail. Councilor Nicastro asked how long to complete the project. Mr. Moskis said probably one day. Councilor Nicastro asked if this was new or replacement pole installation. Mr. Moskis stated this is new and needs to be placed between the substation and transformer in each area.

No one appeared in opposition.

Hearing held.

Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. requesting permission to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as said Companies may deem necessary to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, in the following public way or ways: Manley St.: Install 1 pole on Manley St beginning at a point approx. 180 ft South of the centerline of the intersection of Belmont St and Manley St and continuing approx. 45ft in a southern direction.

Ryan Moskis from National Grid appeared in favor.

Councilor Eaniri expressed his support.

No one appeared in opposition.

Hearing held.

Petition of Andranik Arustamyan dba Advance Auto Performance LLC, of 92 Dartmouth St., Brockton, MA for a Transfer of Motor Vehicle Repair Mechanical License located at 1100 North Montello St., Brockton, MA. (previous owner Sunny Aroustamian)

Andranik Arustamyan appeared in favor.

Councilor Asack stated she was familiar with this business and had no objection.

No one appeared in opposition.

Hearing held.

License transfer was granted by a hand vote. Councilor Cruise absent.

COMMUNICATIONS

118 From the Mayor submitting a letter supporting a Residency Waiver Extension from the Library Department under Section 2-110 of the Ordinances of the City of Brockton.

Accepted and placed on file

119 From the Mayor submitting a letter supporting a Residency Waiver Request from the Board of Health Department under Section 2-110 of the Ordinances of the City of Brockton.

28.
COMMUNICATIONS (CONT'D)

Accepted and placed on file

- 120** From the Mayor submitting a letter supporting a Residency Waiver Request from the Finance Department under Section 2-110 of the Ordinances of the City of Brockton.

Accepted and placed on file

- 121** From the Director of Planning and Economic Development requesting that the City Council authorize the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$229,000 from Commonwealth of Massachusetts-Department of Housing & Community Development-Housing Choice Initiative Program to City of Brockton-Planning and Economic Development- Housing Choice Initiative Program Grant Fund. (this grant will fund Keith Park Pedestrian Crossing Improvements as part of a larger push to modernize and revitalize the Campello Neighborhood). This grant does not require a local match.

Accepted and placed on file

- 122** From the Mayor in Accordance with M.G.L., Ch. 44, recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$229,000 from Commonwealth of Massachusetts-Department of Housing & Community Development-Housing Choice Initiative Program to City of Brockton-Planning and Economic Development- Housing Choice Initiative Program Grant Fund. (this grant will fund Keith Park Pedestrian Crossing Improvements as part of a larger push to modernize and revitalize the Campello Neighborhood).

Accepted and placed on file

- 123** From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Ch. 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying the proposed acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$229,000 from Commonwealth of Massachusetts-Department of Housing & Community Development-Housing Choice Initiative Program to City of Brockton-Planning and Economic Development- Housing Choice Initiative Program Grant Fund.

Accepted and placed on file

- 124** From the Director of the Council on Aging requesting the acceptance and expenditure of a grant award in the amount of \$144,041.60 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs-FY20 Formula Grant to City of Brockton Council on Aging-FY20 Formula Grant Fund. These grant funds will be used for salaries including overtime, energy, department equipment repair, printing, office supplies, registration, memberships and subscriptions. No match required.

Accepted and placed on file

- 125** From the Mayor in accordance with M.G.L., Ch. 44, recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$144,041.60 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs-FY20 Formula Grant to City of Brockton Council on Aging-FY20 Formula Grant Fund. These grant funds will be used for salaries including overtime, energy, department equipment repair, printing, office supplies, registration, memberships and subscriptions. No match required.

Accepted and placed on file

- 126** From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Ch. 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying the proposed acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$144,041.60 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs-FY20 Formula Grant to City of Brockton Council on Aging-FY20 Formula Grant Fund.

Accepted and placed on file

29.
COMMUNICATIONS (CONT'D)

- 127** From the Mayor recommending that the City Council amend the Revised Ordinances of the City, Section 2-127 Pay plan, be amended by adding to compensation Grade DA/P-2.

This classification carries eight steps, ranging from \$63,887 to \$95,467. It currently contains the titles of Assistant Auditor, Assistant Treasurer/Collector, and Budget Director.

Accepted and placed on file

- 128** From the CFO in accordance with the provisions of Ch. 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying the proposed ordinance amendment to establish a new salary structure for the Title of Assistant Director of Human Resources.

Accepted and placed on file

- 129** From the Mayor recommending that the City Council amend the Revised Ordinances of the City, Section 2-127 Pay plan, be amended by adding to compensation Grade DA/P-5 and inserting the title of Diversity and Inclusion manager into the compensation grade DA/P-5 and its associated step salaries. This classification carries eight steps, ranging from \$62,000 to \$76,259.

Accepted and placed on file

- 130** From the CFO in accordance with the provisions of Ch. 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying the proposed ordinance amendment to create and establish a new compensation grade of the title of Diversity and Inclusion manager.

Accepted and placed on file

- 131** From the Mayor recommending that the City Council amend the Revised Ordinances of the City, Section 2-127-Pay Plan, be amended by deleting in its entirety from compensation Grade DH5 the title of Director of Personnel and its associated step salaries and replacing it with DH5 Director of Human Resources. This classification carries eight steps ranging from \$115,000 to \$137,316.

Accepted and placed on file

- 132** From the CFO in accordance with the provisions of Ch. 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying the proposed ordinance amendment to establish a new salary structure for the title of Director of Human resources, and delete the current Director of Personnel.

Accepted and placed on file

- 133** From the Director of Planning and Economic Development requesting that the City Council approve an Order that authorizes the Mayor to prepare, submit and record the documents necessary for a M.G.L., Ch. 41, Section 81P ANR Subdivision as part of the Brockton Downtown Action Strategy application to MassWorks for a grant to build a new road across city owned parking lots from Petronelli Way to Court St., and to rebuild Petronelli Way to improve access to the new parking garage and traffic circulation in general.

Accepted and placed on file

- 134** From the Mayor in accordance with M.G.L., Ch. 41, Section 81P requesting that the City Council authorize as the Mayor to prepare, submit and record the documents necessary for ANR subdivision.

Accepted and placed on file

30.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Petition of Verizon New England, Inc., requesting permission to lay and maintain underground conduit with the wires and cables to be placed therein, under the surface of the following public way or ways: Petronelli Way: Place two-4' PVC's-(205) feet each, of conduit-from existing manhole, MH 5, easterly to a customer placed conduit going to the new parking garage at #31 Petronelli Way. (Hearing POSTPONED from February 10, 2020)

Robert Jenkins, Executive Director of Brockton Redevelopment Authority appeared in favor. Mr. Jenkins stated the paperwork was late and the conduit has already been laid.

Russ Bilodeau from Verizon New England also appeared in favor and confirmed all work in the field was completed.

No one appeared in opposition.

Granting of Verizon New England, Inc., requesting permission to lay and maintain underground conduit with the wires and cables to be placed therein, under the surface of the following public way or ways: Petronelli Way: Place two-4' PVC's-(205) feet each, of conduit-from existing manhole, MH 5, easterly to a customer placed conduit going to the new parking garage at #31 Petronelli Way. (Hearing POSTPONED from February 10, 2020)

Councilor Farwell motioned to skip reading and vote to grant and was properly seconded.

Granted by a hand vote. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 102** Ordered: Acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$623,808.04
From: Executive Office of Public Safety & Security's Office of Grants and Research-2020 Senator Charles E. Shannon, Jr. Community Safety Initiative Grant
To: Brockton Police Department-2020 Senator Charles E. Shannon, Jr. Community Safety Initiative Grant Fund. (FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 104** Ordered: Acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$30,823
From: Executive Office of Public Safety and Security/Office of Grants and Research/Highway Safety Division-FFY2020 Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant
To: City of Brockton Police Department-FFY2020 Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant fund. (FAVORABLE)

Councilor Cardoso stated that she sponsored the item and was in support of this item. She stated moving forward, she would like more information on the outcomes of these grants with mid-year and annual reports and updates to see how effective this is.

Councilor Nicastro responded by stating that there are quarterly steering committee meetings for updates along with monthly partners meetings.

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 105** Ordered: That the City Council authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 3, 2020, for the Brockton High School, located at 470 Forest Avenue, Brockton, MA , which describes the deficiencies and the priority category(s), as delineated on the addendum, for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School

31.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONT'D)

Building Authority in the future: Brockton High School-full renovation; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting the Statement of Interest Form, The Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or approval of the application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of Brockton to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.
(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 106** Ordered: Acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$300,000
From: Department of Public Health’s Bureau of Addiction Services-Substance Abuse Prevention Program (SAPC) Grant
To: Brockton Mayor’s Office-Substance Abuse Prevention Program (SAPC) Grant Fund.
(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 107** Ordered: Acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$13,780
From: Commonwealth of Massachusetts- Executive Office of Public Safety- FY20 Student and Senior Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) Grant
To: City of Brockton Fire Department FY20 Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) Grant Fund \$10,655 and
To: City of Brockton Fire Department- FY20 Senior SAFE Grant Fund \$3,125.
No Match Required. (FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 108** Resolve: 1) That the City of Brockton recognizes the importance of the 2020 Census and supports participation in helping to ensure a complete, fair, and accurate count.
(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 109** Resolve: That the Superintendent of Schools appear before the City Council to explain the impact of The Student Opportunity Act in the Brockton Public Schools.
(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Cruise absent.

- 110** Resolved: The Brockton City Council adopts an official position that such a reduction in services contemplated is not in the best interests of our veterans and urges the Veterans Administration to reconsider its decision to consolidate and eliminate resources on the Brockton VA Campus. Further, the Council by this Resolve communicates to our federal legislative delegation the urgent need to reverse this potentially harmful decision.
(FAVORABLE)

President Asack mentioned that after the last Finance meeting, a communication was received from Vincent Ng, Director of the VA

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONT'D)

Boston Healthcare System and was forwarded to all councilors.

Councilor Thompson motioned to have this item tabled and was properly seconded. Item was tabled by a hand vote. Councilor Cruise absent.

ORDERS

- 135** Ordinance: Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Brockton as follows: That Section 2-127 of Chapter II is hereby amended by adding the following: Section 2-127-Pay Plan, (relative to Assistant Director of Human Resources.)

Referred to Ordinance

- 136** Ordinance: Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Brockton as follows: That Section 2-127 of Chapter II is hereby amended by adding the following: Section 2-127-Pay plan, (relative to Diversity and Inclusion Manager.)

Referred to Ordinance

- 137** Ordinance: Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Brockton as follows: That Section 2-127 of Chapter II is hereby amended by adding the following: Division 7.- Department of Human Resources

Referred to Ordinance

- 138** Ordinance: Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Brockton as follows: That Section 2-127 of Chapter II is hereby amended by adding the following: Section 2-127. - Pay plan, (relative to the Director of Human Resources.)

Referred to Ordinance

- 139** Ordered: The City Council reviews an extension to the residency requirements in accordance with the revised Ordinances of the City of Brockton Article III Section 2-110, City of Brockton Ordinance Waiver of Residency extension in reference to the Library Department.

Referred to Finance

- 140** Ordered: The City Council reviews an exemption from the residency requirement in accordance with the Revised Ordinances of the City of Brockton Article III Section 2-110, City of Brockton Ordinance Waiver of Residency in reference to the Board of Health Department

Referred to Finance

- 141** Ordered: The City Council reviews an exemption from the residency requirement in accordance with the Revised Ordinances of the City of Brockton Article III Section 2-110, City of Brockton Ordinance Waiver of Residency in reference to the Finance Department.

Referred to Finance

- 142** Ordered: 1. That the Mayor of Brockton, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L., Ch. 44 sec. 53A, be and is hereby authorized to accept this grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Housing Choice Initiative program; and
2. That the Mayor of Brockton be and is hereby authorized to expend and take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of this grant to be administered by the City's Department of Planning and Economic Development.

33.
ORDERS (CONT'D)

Referred to Finance

- 143** Ordered: Acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$144,041.60
From: Executive Office of Elder Affairs-FY20 Formula Grant
To: City of Brockton Council on Aging-FY20 Formula Grant Fund

Referred to Finance

- 144** Ordered: That the Mayor, or his designee, is hereby authorized to prepared, file with the Planning Board, and record with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds an ANR Subdivision of Plot 1 Franklin Street (109-044) Plot 3 Petronelli Way (109-054), and Plot 5 Petronelli Way (109-055), all City owned land, for the construction of a new road that will intersect Petronelli Way, Franklin and Court Streets.

Referred to Real Estate

Granting of Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. requesting permission to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as said Companies may deem necessary to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, in the following public way or ways: Thatcher St.: Install 1 pole on Thatcher St beginning at a point approx. 1255 ft Southeast of the centerline of the intersection of Park Way and Thatcher St and continuing approx. 79ft in a Southeast direction.

Granted by a hand vote. Councilor Cruise absent.

Granting of Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. requesting permission to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as said Companies may deem necessary to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, in the following public way or ways: Manley St.: Install 1 pole on Manley St beginning at a point approx. 180 ft South of the centerline of the intersection of Belmont St and Manley St and continuing approx. 45ft in a southern direction.

Granted by a hand vote. Councilor Cruise absent.

Councilor's Recognition

President Asack said that early voting started today, February 24th through February 28th at Westgate Mall, in the old Payless Shoe store. Hours are Monday-Thursday 8:30AM-6:00PM and Friday 8:30AM-4:30PM. She encouraged people to go vote if unable to go for the Presidential primary will be Tuesday March 2, 2020.

President Asack offered thanks to BCA. Although the cable feed of the meeting is not live, the replay has been up quickly on cable TV.

Councilor Thompson stated that on Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30PM at the War Memorial Building there will be a 2020 Census workshop. There will be multiple speakers from New York and Brockton. There will be information on how to participate in the census and on job opportunities. During this process, hard to count areas will be targeted. If you are a community leader for people that are considered hard to count, we would appreciate your participation.

Councilor Thompson said that on Thursday February 27th, he and Councilor Monahan will host a joint Ward 2 and 5 Ward meeting at Joe Angelo's from 6:00-8:00PM. There will be several invited guests including the Mayor and Interim School Superintendent.

Councilor Lally announced that on Sunday, March 7th at 5:15PM there will be a celebration for Lithuanian Heritage Day at St. Michael's Church, 87 North Main St. in Avon. There will be a mass before the celebration and all are invited.

34.
ORDERS (CONT'D)

Councilor Mendes stated this past weekend she attended an event at Brockton Public Library for Black History month coordinated by the NAACP, relating to women's right to vote. She congratulated all doing a great job in our city.

Councilor Farwell stated that because of the Open Meeting law he had some remarks related to the pay adjustments that were submitted. He stated that most people are not aware of the wonderful working group we have in the City. Councilor Farwell stated he was concerned when it looks like one position or one person is favored over others. He stated that if this pay increase is approved, the salary would be more than the City Clerk who is responsible for all vital records and the Building Superintendent, that is on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. He said he was uncomfortable cherry-picking positions for salary increases. Council Farwell hopes that as a Council, before raising one salary, that all city salaries are reviewed as there may be others worthy of a salary increase.

President Asack reminded that all subcommittee meetings are open to the public where discussion takes place on their votes before coming back to the full Council for a final vote.

Councilor Cardoso, responding to Councilor Farwell, thinks that if residency requirements are going to be lifted for some, these should be looked at in the same way across the board.

All items on agenda are available in their entirety for review in the City Clerk's Office for all interested parties.

All council business as listed on the agenda have been emailed to the City Council members in their complete form, with exception of oversized material, such as maps, photos, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.