

Chelsea, Massachusetts October 5, 2020

A Regular meeting of the Chelsea City Council was held. The meeting was held at the Chelsea City Hall located at 500 Broadway Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150. The following Councilors were present: Councilors Zabot, Garcia, Taylor, Recupero, Robinson, Brown, Vidot, Vega-Maldonado, Rodriguez, Avellaneda, and Lopez. Council President Avellaneda presided over the meeting. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Memoriums and Celebratory Resolutions:

The following Resolution was introduced by Councilor Robinson and all members of the City Council. A motion from Councilor Robinson to adopt under suspension was adopted.

Resolution

Whereas, Vicente "Tito" Avellaneda first came to Chelsea in 1976, as co-founder of G&T Bakery & Pizza shop with Giovanni "John" Falzone at 142 Broadway in Chelsea Square; and

Whereas, Vicente and Isabel Avellaneda moved to Chelsea along with their sons Roy and Chris when they became homeowners in 1977; and

Whereas, Vicente Avellaneda later bought out his partner and changed the name to Tito's Bakery in the end of 1977 and was joined by his wife Isabel Avellaneda, while Giovanni moved on to open John's Pizza on Central Ave; and

Whereas, On September 26th, 1960 Tito's Bakery relocated and opened at 333 Broadway; and

Whereas, Through the years as a downtown Chelsea Business owners, both Vicente Avellaneda and Isabel became civility active members of the city where they lived, worked and raised their family which now included their third son, Nikolas; and

Whereas, That involvement included being a member of the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce, the Chelsea Charter Committee, the Cultural Council, Zonta Club, and sponsor of various local events including the Latin American Cultural Festival, Chelsea Indoor and Outdoor Soccer Leagues, the Chelsea Downtown Christmas Parade, hundreds of youth and civic ad book sponsorships; and

Whereas, Through its 44 year existence, Tito's Bakery has employed dozens of local Chelsea residents and has been a positive economic contributor to the downtown business area and Chelsea in general; and

Whereas, On August 8th 2020 Tito's Bakery was permanently closed as Vicente and Isabel Avellaneda Decided to begin their retirement lives after 50 years as self-employed business owners; Therefore let it be

Resolved, That the Chelsea City Council on behalf of its residents, business leaders and stakeholders wish both Vicente and Isabel Avellaneda a well-deserved joyful and healthy retirement life and gratitude for their contributions as to the City of Chelsea.

The following Resolution was introduced by Councilor Vega-Maldonado and all members of the Chelsea City Council. A motion from Councilor Vega-Maldonado to adopt under suspension was adopted.

Resolution

Whereas, During National Hispanic Heritage month (September 15 to October 15), The Chelsea City Council would like to recognize the following latinx trailblazers for their continuous amazing work in the Chelsea Community; and

Whereas, Sonia's Hair Salon for them providing a service and being a business in the city of Chelsea

Whereas, Eduardo Chacon be recognized for his work with Jukebox Event company. Events such as Chelsea Nights Maker, Pupusa Fiesta Verano, and Chelsea Disco Party; and

Whereas, Lourdes Alvarez for her response efforts during Covid-19, she was instrumental in many areas including our culturally sensitive communication efforts, a frontline hero at the food pantry, key coordinator for the rental assistance program as well as the Chelsea Eats Card Program. She is to be admired for her work ethic and relentless hours spent helping residents of Chelsea.

Whereas, Superintendent Almi Abeyta and School Chairwoman Kelly Garcia for their efforts in ensuring that our students have the resources they need to get high quality education during COVID-19 providing food, clothing technology, school supplies, etc; and

Whereas, the Chelsea Collaborative be recognized for their work and efforts in addressing the food insecurity that sprung from the current COVID-19 pandemic during Chelsea, and NOW Therefore Be It

Resolved, That the Chelsea City Council honor these trailblazers for being a part of the community whether that may be by providing a service, being community activists, being frontline heroes, etc. These individuals, organizations, and business have become an example of how Hispanic/Latinx have positively influenced and enriched our community, state and nation.

Public Speaking:

The public speaking portion opened at 7:43 p.m. The following came forward to speak:

Resident of 150 Heard Street - spoke of support for the vitalization of the Broadway District and Marijuana Zoning.

Alex Floyd-Vargas 260 Clark Ave - reminded the public about the Census, Early Voting, and take your Flu Shot.
The public speaking portion closed at 7:46 p.m.

Approval of minutes:

The minutes of the City Council Meeting dated September 21, 2020 were approved at the request of Councilor Garcia under suspension.

Communications from the City Manager:

The following communication was read from City Manager Thomas G. Ambrosino. A motion from Councilor Garcia moved the appointments to a second reading under suspension.

Honorable Chelsea City Council
Chelsea City Hall
500 Broadway
Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150

Re: Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Dear Councilors:

Pursuant to Section 4-2 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea, I am writing to recommend the following individuals to Boards and Commissions in the City.

For appointment to the Historical Commission, Mr. Matthew Frank, 45 Jones Ave. E32, Chelsea, for a three year term expiring in 2023.

For appointment to the Planning Board Mr. Kahalil Saddiq, 8 Grove St. #8 Chelsea, to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Sharon Caulfield, who has been appointed to the Chelsea Housing Authority. This unexpired term will commence November 9, 2020 and expire on February 25, 2022.

For appointment to the Board of Health, Mr. Ola Bayode, 9 Eden Street, Chelsea, to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Catherine Maas, who has resigned. This term expires on February 28, 2021.

For appointment to the Community Schools Advisory Board, Mr. Christopher Marroquin, 12 Maverick Street, Apt. #1, Chelsea, for a three year term expiring on June 30, 2022.

I recognize the reluctance of the City Council to appoint non-residents to our Boards. But, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is unique in requiring that at least one member of the Board have housing development expertise. See Administrative Code, Part II, Section 18.01 (a). Ms. Kelley's appointment has

met that requirement for the past four years. Ms. Kelly has over 30 years experience working at MassHousing. The Director of Housing & Community Development strongly supports her re-appointment.

For the above reasons, I request approval of these appointments. Resumes for all appointees are attached.

Sincerely,
Thomas G. Ambrosino
City Manager

The following communication was read from City Manager Thomas G. Ambrosino. A motion from Councilor Robinson to accept and file was adopted under suspension.

The Honorable Chelsea City Council
Chelsea City Hall
500 Broadway
Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150

Re: Promotion of Mask Use

Dear Councilors:

I am writing in response to the City Council Order requesting that I help to promote the use of mask wearing in the City.

I assure you that this effort to promote mask wearing has been ongoing from my office since the start of the pandemic. We have regularly provided messaging on safe practices, including mask wearing, on social media, our website and on calls to constituents. Further, I have regularly appeared on local Cable during this pandemic, and this is always a topic of discussion.

Although enforcement of mask guidance against pedestrians in outside areas is a bit problematic, both legal and logistically, it can be, and has been, effectively enforced in interior business spaces. Most recently, we have been working with the State COVID-19 Task Force to enhance enforcement of this and other COVID-19 regulations through unannounced inspections of liquor establishments, barbershops/hair salons and retail stores.

I expect these efforts to continue as long as the coronavirus remains prevalent in Chelsea.

Sincerely,
Thomas G. Ambrosino
City Manger

Communications and petitions to the Council:

A copy of the Warrant for the November Elections was received from City Clerk Jeanette Cintron White. A motion from Councilor Garcia to accept and file was adopted under suspension. (There will be an Order under new Business).

New Business:

The following order was introduced by Councilor Vidot. A motion from Councilor Vidot to adopt under suspension was adopted.

Request, for a Subcommittee on Conference to discuss the zoning for recreational marijuana.

The following order was introduced by Councilor Robinson. A motion from Councilor Robinson to adopt under suspension was adopted.

Request, for the City Manager to give an update on the navigators program.

The following order was introduced by Councilor Robinson and Avellaneda. Councilor Robinson moved to adopt under suspension. Councilor Vidot amended the order to move it to the Sub-Committee on Conference. Councilor Robinson requested roll call. On roll call the amendment passed 8-3-0-0. Voting yes were Councilors Zobot, Garcia, Recupero, Brown, Vidot, Maldonado, Rodriguez, and Lopez. Voting no were Councilors Taylor, Robinson, and Avellaneda.

Request, for the City Manager to look into hiring a consultant for the hiring of Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

The following order was introduced by Councilor Avellaneda. A motion from Councilor Avellaneda to adopt under suspension was adopted.

Order that the City Manager have the City Interim Assessor provide the City Council with the list of proposed assessed values for 2021 Tax rate approval.

The following order was introduced by Councilor Avellaneda. A motion from Councilor Avellaneda to adopt under suspension was adopted.

Order, that any sidewalk replacement work in the Downtown Broadway area retain bricks as part of replacement work as full as present or as an accent similar to present Fifth Street and Washington Avenue in the Cary Square area between Bloomingdale and Silk Street.

The following order was introduced by Councilor Avellaneda. On roll call the order passed 11-0-0-0. Voting yes were Councilors Zobot, Garcia, Taylor, Recupero, Robinson, Brown, Vidot, Vega-Maldonado, Rodriguez, Avellaneda, and Lopez.

Request, to accept the warrant for November 3, 2020 State Election.

The following order was introduced by Councilor Recupero and ruled out of order by Council President Avellaneda.

Request for the City Manager adds to the job posting for the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion that the person needs to live in Chelsea.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul G. Casino (CM)

Paul G. Casino
Clerk of the Chelsea City Council