**Monday, December 18, 2017**

At a regular meeting of the City Council, in the City of Woonsocket, County of Providence, State of Rhode Island in Harris Hall on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 7 P.M.

All members are present.

The prayer is read by the Clerk. The Pledge of Allegiance is given by the assembly.

The following person addressed the council under citizens good and welfare: Helene Mandeville

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the minutes of the regular meeting held December 4th be approved as submitted, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

17 M 21 A communication from Mayor to address the City Council regarding the Mayor’s Office and events within the City is read by title.

17 CO 66 An opinion of City Solicitor regarding claim of Eric Gathigi v. City of Woonsocket is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Cournoyer it is voted that the opinion be received and placed on file.

17 LC 49 Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilwoman Sierra it is voted that the following licenses be granted, a voice vote on same being unanimous: 1 Class F1 liquor license and 1 renewal of first class victualing license.

17 CP 76 A monthly odor report from CH2M Hill is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Cournoyer it is voted that the report be received and placed on file.

17 CP 77 A request of Director Jalette to address the City Council regarding a Public Safety Study is read by title. Mr. Jalette addressed the council.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted to dispense with the regular order of business and take up the following:

17 R 136 A resolution appointing Steven J. Lima to the Woonsocket School Committee is read by title, and

A motion is made by Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp that the resolution be passed, however, before this is voted on

Upon motion of Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilman Brien it is voted that the resolution be tabled, a roll call vote on same being 5-2 with Councilors Beauchamp and Murray voting no.

17 CP 78 A request of Councilman Fagnant to address the following items: hydrant refurbishing programs and bids received, transferring funds to purchase a new 2018 Ford F550 rescue vehicle, salt brine system being applied to our city roads, recycling program and how the public can help it successful, update on Landmark/Prime medical from administration and Christmas greeting from Councilman Fagnant and family is read by title.

17 CP 79 Request of Councilman Cournoyer to address the following items: FY 2018 budget, appointments to boards and committees, public safety and blight.

17 CP 80 Request of Vice President Brien to address the following items: 17 R 129 authorizing and empowering Mayor to submit an application to the RI Department of Environmental Management for improvements at Cass Park, 17 R 130 Authorizing and empowering Mayor and Planning & Development Director to apply to the RI Department of Environmental for grant awards under the Brownsfield Site Preparation & Remediation funding program and municipal MOU in connection with the Boston Surface Rail Project.

The following remarks are made under good and welfare:

Councilman Cournoyer wished everyone and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Fagnant gave update of former Brick House. He addressed condition of Avenue C. He addressed Public Safety Department spending. He spoke about vehicles broken into on Coe Street during snowstorm. He addressed Finance Director regarding out of state plates.

Councilwoman Murray wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year.

Councilwoman Sierra spoke about fundraiser at Bileau’s and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year.

President Gendron expressed his happiness and effectiveness of this city council. He wished for cooperation and unity in the new year. He wished everyone a very Merry Christmas. He also expressed that everyone keep Director Bouley in their prayers.

Councilman Beauchamp wished everyone a Happy Holidays and advised people to spend time with the people they love. He remarked it’s not what you say but how you say it.

Councilman Brien addressed odor report. He gave thanks for being on council and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

17 O 74 An ordinance requiring the City Council approval for the hiring of attorneys, which was passed for the first time on December 4th, is read by title, and

A motion is made by Councilman Fagnant seconded by Councilman Brien that the ordinance be passed, however, before this is voted on

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted to amend the Ordinance as follows: At the end of Section 1 insert “in any amount, in excess of what has been approved in the current year’s budget”. This amendment fails on a 5-2 roll call vote with Councilors Murray & Beauchamp voting yes.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Cournoyer it is voted to amend the Ordinance as follows: At the end of Section 3 insert “No City Council member or city employee shall receive a referral fee from any law firm doing business with the City”. This amendment is voted on and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Brien it is voted to amend the Ordinance as follows: In section 4 after “Solicitor” insert “or Asst. City Solicitor”. This amendment is voted on and passed on a 6-1 roll call vote with Councilman Fagnant voting no.

Upon motion of Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted to amend the Ordinance as follows: At the end of Section 1 insert “, provided, however, that the Solicitor may engage (i.e. hire) third-party, outside legal counsel in connection with the responding to and/or defending against claims made against the City, and in any event shall notify the Council of such engagement, along with the rationale for the engagement no later than ten (10) calendar days after such engagement”. This amendment is voted on and passed unanimously on a roll call vote. The Ordinance, as amended, is voted on and passed on a 5-2 roll call vote with Councilors Beauchamp & Murray voting no.

17 O 75 An ordinance in amendment of Code of Ordinances, Chapter 13 entitled “Licenses and Permits” Article 2, Section 13-24, which was passed for the first time on December 4th, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Sierra seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the ordinance be passed, a roll call vote on same being unanimous.

17 O 76 An ordinance in amendment of Chapter 17 entitled “Traffic” of the Code of Ordinances, which was passed for the first time on December 4th, is read by title, and

A motion is made by Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Cournoyer that the ordinance be passed, however, before this is voted on

Upon motion of Councilman Brien seconded by Councilman Cournoyer it is voted that the ordinance be tabled, a roll call vote on same being unanimous.

17 O 77 An ordinance authorizing the sale of property located at 248 Park Avenue, which was passed for the first time on December 4th, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilwoman Murray it is voted that the ordinance be passed, a roll call vote on same being 6-1 with Councilman Fagnant voting no.

17 O 78 An ordinance transferring funds from City Capital Fund to Fire Division is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the ordinance be tabled, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

17 O 79 An ordinance in amendment of Chapter 15 entitled “Parks and Recreation” of the Code of Ordinances is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Fagnant seconded by Councilwoman Murray it is voted that the ordinance be passed for the first time, a roll call vote on same being unanimous.

17 O 80 An ordinance authorizing Public Works Director to sell salt brine to the Town of North Smithfield is read by title, and

A motion is made by Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilwoman Murray that the ordinance be passed, however, before this is voted on

Upon motion of Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilwoman Murray it is voted to amend as follows: In 3rd whereas after “Woonsocket” add “not less than” and also in Section 1 after “rate of” add “not less than”. This amendment is voted on and passed unanimously. The ordinance, as amended, is then voted on and passed for the first time, a roll call vote on same being unanimous.

17 R 120 A resolution authorizing Mayor to purchase the property located at Jillson Avenue, which was tabled at the meeting of November 6th, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

17 R 134 A resolution authorizing the cancellation of certain taxes is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

17 R 135 A resolution suspending Rule 21 of the Rules of Order of the City Council as adopted December 6, 2016 is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the meeting be and it is hereby adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Attest: Christina Harmon-Duarte City Clerk