

**TOWN SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - WEDNESDAY EVENING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2011**

PRESENT: Marshall (arrived at 7:32 o'clock PM); Barboza, Teixeira, Herreshoff (arrived at 7:11 o'clock PM), and Parella

The Council met in special session for the purpose of conducting interviews on Wednesday evening, September 21, 2011, in the Town Hall, Council Chambers beginning at 7:10 o'clock PM, Council Vice-chairman Barboza presiding:

Prior to the commencement of this evening's agenda, Council Vice-chairman Barboza announced that Council Chairman Marshall will be arriving later this evening.

1. Public Service Interview(s)/Appointment(s)
 - a. Board of Tenants' Affairs (to fill term to expire in January 2013)
 1. Sandra Carlin McCormack, 1 Reilly Lane - interest/appointment

Councilman Herreshoff arrived at this point in the meeting (7:11 o'clock PM).

Ms. McCormack stated that she is a resident of Bristol and that she would like to actively participate through community service. She added that she is a registered nurse.

Councilman Barboza asked to know why Ms. McCormack applied for this position with Ms. McCormack responding that she saw a notice for the appointment and found that it met her area of interest.

The Clerk described the duties of the board as an arbitration committee and explained that due to the relative harmony between the Housing Authority tenants and the Housing Authority there has been little need to activate this board.

Councilman Teixeira asked to know Ms. McCormack's opinion regarding resolving conflict with Ms. McCormack responding that she would listen to both sides and hopefully find some middle-ground.

Councilwoman Parella thanked Ms. McCormack for her interest and explained that the Council may have more qualified

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candidates than positions available. She asked to know if Ms. McCormack may be interested in another board or commission if the Council chooses someone else for this position.

Ms. McCormack informed the Council that she may also be interested in the Juvenile Hearing Board.

Councilwoman Parella observed Ms. McCormack's resume and noted that she might be considered as a long-term care ombudsman.

Ms. McCormack stated that she was not familiar with those duties but would like to hear from Councilwoman Parella regarding same.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know if Ms. McCormack was retired with Ms. McCormack responding that she was retired. She added that she moved to Bristol from the Boston area approximately four (4) years ago.

2. Martha Reed, 21 Sunset Road -
interest/appointment

Ms. Reed informed the Council that she has nineteen (19) years' experience as a property manager and has participated in resolving tenants' issues.

She added that she works for Catholic Social Services in Fall River and that she is not 100% pro-landlord and also not 100% pro-tenant.

Ms. Reed informed the Council that she believes not all issues are "black and white" and that some issues may be resolved through mediation.

Councilwoman Parella noted that this particular board is not very active and asked Ms. Reed if she might be interested also in some other position. Ms. Reed responded that she was also interested in the Economic Development Commission and that she would be pleased to lend her experience where it may be needed.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that he found Ms. Reed's resume to be impressive.

Ms. Reed thanked the Council for the opportunity to apply.

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- b. Economic Development Commission - Full Member (to fill term to expire in September 2013) and Second Alternate (to fill term to expire in September 2014)

It is hereby noted for the record that former alternate member Ethan Tucker was elevated to full-member status at the Council meeting of September 7, 2011. Due to this change, the positions available are first and second alternate with both terms to expire in September 2014. It is also noted for the record that the first and second alternate serve for three-year terms.

- 1. Kevin W. Manuel, 19 Peckham Place - interest/appointment

LATE ITEM

- a. Kevin W. Manuel re letter of withdrawal
- 2. Jerry W. Dauterive, 4 Liberty Lane - interest/appointment

Mr. Dauterive explained that he is the Dean of the Business School at Roger Williams University and also a new citizen of the Town. He added that as an economist he realizes the importance of economic development.

Mr. Dauterive added that his office brings some resources to aid in the Town's economic development and also that he believes that Roger Williams University may be an "economic engine" to promote the region.

Mr. Dauterive informed the Council that he has lived in Bristol for three (3) years and wishes for the Town to prosper. He added that he serves on the East Bay Chamber of Commerce and also the Mount Hope Farm Board of Trustees.

Council Chairman Marshall suggested that Mr. Dauterive's experience brings "a good connection point" between the various entities and the Town.

Mr. Dauterive informed the Council that the business school has a "small business support center" with six (6) student working groups. He added that these groups are a resource and also the university faculty is a resource for local businesses. He further added that these groups help

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prepare business plans and financial statements for businesses and not-for-profit entities.

Council Chairman Marshall asked to know if Mr. Dauterive was involved with the East Bay Chamber of Commerce with Mr. Dauterive responding that he was.

Council Chairman Marshall noted the upcoming America's Cup activities in Narragansett Bay and suggested that the various entities (chambers of commerce, etc.) should work together to promote these activities regionally.

Mr. Dauterive informed the Council that he enjoys working with the Newport Chamber of Commerce.

Council Chairman Marshall stated that the Bristol-Newport Convention and Visitors Bureau was a good "outgrowth."

Mr. Dauterive agreed that the two areas have complementary resources.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know how Rhode Island compares to Mr. Dauterive's former home in Texas with Mr. Dauterive responding that he enjoys the smaller state. He added that Rhode Island is far more interesting due to the challenges relating to its size.

Council Chairman Marshall stated that he would like to see Roger Williams University graduates remain in Bristol and start businesses here.

Mr. Dauterive stated that he wished to increase entrepreneurship with the students. He noted that students appear to "like it here" and also informed the Council that (eighty percent) 80% of the students are from New England, New York or New Jersey and also that they enjoy their time in Rhode Island.

Councilman Teixeira noted that the State sponsors nursing students who agree to a five (5) year commitment to remain in the State. He suggested that a similar arrangement might be made available to some business students.

Councilwoman Parella stated that the universities should be part of the State's "economic engine" and that the State should embrace business students beyond those occupied with oceanography.

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Mr. Dauterive informed the Council that he will moderate a forum on workforce development on October 13, 2011 sponsored by the EDC.

Councilman Barboza suggested that Mr. Dauterive would be an asset to the EDC.

A discussion ensued regarding how businesses might be encouraged to locate in Bristol with Mr. Dauterive suggesting that the Council may wish to identify any obstacles and attempt to remove these.

Councilman Herreshoff noted that business regulations are sometimes identified as barriers. He suggested that the regulations may be secondary since businesses will sometimes locate here because the employees have an attraction to the area. He added that the single answer, if there is one, is not readily apparent.

Mr. Dauterive suggested that networking is important and that the answer may be revealed through contact with those who have resisted opening a business in the Town.

Councilman Herreshoff suggested that Mr. Dauterive might ask Mario Gabelli to provide his insights to the Council.

Councilwoman Parella noted that locating a business in Rhode Island is challenging since other states are close by.

Council Chairman Marshall asked if Mr. Dauterive, in his capacity as business school dean, might "rate" Bristol's business efforts.

Mr. Dauterive replied that he has been impressed by the Town's efforts and also that the university will work with the Town's representatives to provide whatever is needed. He added that the Town/University program with the Downtown Merchants for "building bridges" appears to be successful.

Council Chairman Marshall asked to know if Mr. Dauterive knows Alan Crisman with Mr. Dauterive responding that he is aware of Mr. Crisman.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know if Mr. Dauterive was "involved" at the State level with Mr. Dauterive responding

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that he has attended meetings but is not a member of the State EDC.

3. Jaimie Russell, 9 Easterbrooks Avenue - interest/appointment

Ms. Russell informed the Council that she moved to Bristol one and a half years ago from Bristol, Connecticut. She also informed the Council that she has a background in economic development and that she recently worked for the State Department of Administration on minority businesses. Previously she worked in Hartford, Connecticut; assisting with job applications. She stated that she enjoys being involved in the community.

Councilman Barboza expressed concern that Ms. Russell's student schedule may be too demanding and asked to know if she was able to make the commitment for Commission meetings and activities.

Ms. Russell explained that she would be available for meetings.

Councilwoman Parella noted that there are sometimes sub-committee and "working group" responsibilities with Ms. Russell stating that she could make the commitment to attend these.

Councilwoman Parella noted that one of the primary responsibilities of the Economic Development Commission is to attract business and asked to know if Ms. Russell has experience attracting business.

Ms. Russell replied that she does not have this experience.

Councilman Teixeira noted that Ms. Russell plans to graduate from Law School in 2013 and asked to know her plans looking forward.

Ms. Russell replied that she plans to take the RI Bar exam upon graduation and would like to practice business law locally. She added that she very much likes the area and wishes to remain here.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that the Economic Development Commission has two separate areas of focus; attracting new

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business and helping those businesses already established in Bristol.

He added that the latter focus area could benefit from job counseling.

Ms. Russell stated that the Commission appears to present a "great opportunity" for her to challenge herself. She added that she can offer the perspective of both an "outsider" and also as a student.

Council Chairman Marshall arrived at this point in the meeting (7:32 o'clock PM).

A discussion ensued regarding the responsibilities of the alternate members with the Clerk reminding the Council that the Commission often utilizes its alternates as full members in order to establish a quorum. He added that many of the commissioners lead busy lives and that some must be absent from meetings.

Council Chairman Marshall asked to know if Ms. Russell served on boards and/or commissions in the past with Ms. Russell explaining that she has been attentive to school responsibilities exclusively up to this point.

Council Chairman Marshall explained the responsibilities of Alan Crisman and stated that Mr. Crisman is more "big picture."

Ms. Russell stated that the "mom and pop" businesses are important in a "family community."

A discussion ensued concerning the local business climate with Ms. Russell noting that the lack of public transportation and taxis can be somewhat of an impediment. She added that students are "night owls" and that there are opportunities for restaurants to operate late at night to accommodate these persons.

Councilwoman Parella expressed concern over Ms. Russell's response. She added that the downtown area is also a residential neighborhood and that late night activities tend to lead to excessive noise and destruction of property. She added that a portion of this noise and damage is attributed to students and that the Town must find a way

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to "strike a balance" between the students and the neighborhood.

She added that the Town's desire for economic development must be broader than restaurants and bars. She added that the Town does not wish to encourage "late night joints."

Ms. Russell stated that she does not advocate a party atmosphere.

- c. Juvenile Hearing Board - Alternate Member
(to fill term to expire in December 2011)
 - 1. Marjorie J. McBride, 3 Avenir Court -
interest/appointment

Ms. McBride informed the Council that she wished to participate on the Juvenile Hearing Board some time ago but was unable to, since she "had a lot on her plate" at that time.

Ms. McBride also informed the Council that Board member Matthew Cabral suggested that she may wish to apply for the position at this time.

She informed the Council that she has extensive experience working with children and that she has a degree in sociology and also in Secondary Education with a concentration in American History. She added that she worked at Bristol High School and that children are a "passion" of hers.

Councilman Herreshoff suggested that Ms. McBride may wish to speak to Board member N. Diane Davis who has participated on the Board for many years.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that the Board is an important one. Ms. McBride agreed and informed the Council that she has not missed any of the cases since becoming a member of the School Committee.

Ms. McBride thanked the Council for considering her application.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that he is aware that Ms. McBride is a strong advocate for her areas of interest.

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develop the property to include commercial spaces rented to others.

Mr. Brigidi also informed the Council that he owns a commercial building housing two businesses on Bradford Street and that he has been active in the hospitality industry and has participated in the marketing and promotion of Blithewold, Linden Place, Mount Hope Farm, etc.

Mr. Brigidi noted that he is an active member of the Downtown Bristol Merchants Association (DBMA) and that he attends all meetings. He added that he attends marketing meetings or receives briefings of the deliberations.

Mr. Brigidi indicated that he considers his appointment as a privilege and also that he enjoys being of assistance.

Mr. Brigidi reported that he is chairman of the State Street Dock Improvement Committee, active in Save Bristol Harbor, and a "passionate opponent" of the plans to locate a LNG terminal within our waterways.

Mr. Brigidi also reported that he works closely with Cathy Morris concerning the Bristol Visitor Center. He added that Alan Crisman's office was recently relocated to allow for the expansion of the Visitor Center and that this expansion will provide an area to "showcase (Bristol and Warren's) assets."

Mr. Brigidi announced that he is involved with the Bristol and Warren Gallery Night to feature local galleries and also restaurants and that he is arranging trolley transportation through Peter Wilbur's office at Roger Williams University.

Mr. Brigidi reported that the Bureau is expanding "Restaurant Week" to include seven (7) local establishments in March and also that this event "brings in people."

Councilwoman Parella noted that some local restaurants participate in Providence's Restaurant Week.

Council Chairman Marshall expressed concern that Bristol's name was being dropped from the Convention and Visitors Bureau. He expressed additional concern that Bristol will be "drowned out" by Newport. He also noted that the

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Bureau's term limits were put in place to assure that more people would be able to have "a bite of the apple."

Council Chairman Marshall noted that Mr. Brigidi is an appointee of the Town Council and expressed disappointment that Mr. Brigidi did not inform the Council of the Bureau's intention to change its name. He stated that Mr. Brigidi has an obligation to "collaborate and communicate with the Town Council."

Council Chairman Marshall stated his "personal opinion" that Mr. Brigidi should have communicated with the Council prior to taking a position on the name change. He added that the local General Assembly had its reservations about joining Bristol County with Newport in that it may lose its identity and become "absorbed" by the City.

Council Chairman Marshall also indicated that to include the name "Bristol County" to the Visitors Bureau made the change more palatable to the Senators and Representatives and that the proposed change has made the leaders uneasy.

Mr. Brigidi stated that the name change was not his choice and that he wished for Bristol's name to "remain in the masthead" but that he did not prevail. He added that he eventually concurred with the decision to change the name and informed the Council that the new "moniker is a good one."

Mr. Brigidi added that the formerly identified "Newport-Bristol Heritage Trail" now appears to be defunct.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that he thought joining with Newport was "risky" and that the partnership appeared to be working initially. He stated that he fears that Bristol will be "shoved in the corner."

Mr. Brigidi informed the Council that he is "treated as an equal" as part of the Bureau and that Bristol is an "equal player."

Mr. Brigidi reported that the Bristol businesses benefit through the Bureau's website, marketing, etc., and also that Bristol businesses participate in this at no cost. He added that the Bureau has kiosks costing \$20,000 each and that one of these will be installed in the Burnside Building Visitor Center. He added that the summer

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"projections" indicate an increase of (seven percent) 7% over the previous year.

Mr. Brigidi added that he would have "loved" to have kept the Bristol name but that he was not part of the committee.

Council Chairman Marshall suggested that the Council may wish to send a letter to Evan Smith asking that the matter should be reconsidered.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that Bristol "joined" the Bureau based upon the inclusion of its name.

Council Chairman Marshall repeated that some of the General Assembly members were concerned about this issue and that the name issue became a "bargaining chip" in the legislative action.

He added that the East Bay Chamber of Commerce lost funds due to the change and this message should be brought to the board.

Council Chairman Marshall also expressed concern that Town Administrator Mederos was not included in the discussions regarding the upcoming America's Cup events.

Councilwoman Parella stated that she believes that Mr. Brigidi does a good job and also believes that he was "outnumbered" in the name decision. She stated that Mr. Brigidi should not have faced the issue alone and should have solicited assistance from the Town Council. She added that she thinks the new name is "weird."

Councilwoman Parella informed the Council that she believes there is value in "longevity" and recommended that Mr. Brigidi should be reappointed in part due to his experience on the board. She added that she believes that Mr. Brigidi's background is related to the activities of the Bureau.

Councilman Teixeira asked to know the amount of funding available to the Bureau with Mr. Brigidi reporting that the Bureau receives \$30,000 from Bristol County and \$1.6 million from Newport County - these funds being derived from the hotel occupancy tax.

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Council Chairman Marshall asked to know if the Town is receiving value for its \$30,000 with Mr. Brigidi reporting that this is a good investment for the Town.

Councilwoman Parella stated that the issue may become more of a problem "down the line."

Mr. Brigidi reported that Little Compton and Barrington do not wish to increase visitation to their towns.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know how the representatives of Barrington and Warren voted on the name change with Mr. Brigidi responding that he did not know how these representatives voted. He added that he thinks that the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Brigidi again informed the Council that Bristol is treated equally in the Bureau and has no disadvantages. He noted that the Town is "third" after Newport and Middletown and that the Town will derive "more than its fair share" of the Bureau's resources. He added that he wishes to continue in his capacity and promised to work hard. He also advised the Council that he did not anticipate that the Council would have difficulty with the new name. He also stated that the impetus of the name change was "marketing."

Councilwoman Parella asked to know if the "tagline" will include Bristol by name with Mr. Brigidi stating that all nine (9) towns will be listed individually.

Mr. Brigidi informed the Council that he would like to provide a report to its honorable body annually in the future.

Mr. Brigidi stated that he would like more traffic signage to direct visitors to the Visitor Center and also to promote the America's Cup Hall of Fame. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to be of service and expressed his desire to continue.

2. Tony M. Brum, 240 Franklin Street - interest/appointment

Mr. Brum thanked the Council for the interview. He added that he has lived in Bristol for (thirty four) 34 years and recently returned to Town for his employment. He reported

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that he manages the TD Bank branch in Barrington and would like to become "involved" and has time available to do so.

Mr. Brum explained that he has a career in banking and has worked for the former Fleet Bank and also Sovereign Bank. He added that he is working to build market share for his bank and would like to build relationships toward this end.

Mr. Brum informed the Council that he serves on the Tap-In Board, the Soup Kitchen, and also is Treasurer of the Barrington Business Association. He noted that there are challenges for business in Barrington since the Town lacks a "town center" and that business in that town is "fragmented."

Mr. Brum noted that the DBMA has been successful and that he has a plan to aggressively pursue business for Bristol as part of the Convention and Visitors Bureau. He noted that Bristol is "unique" in the area.

Council Chairman Marshall noted that he is aware that TD Bank expects its employees to accomplish "civic and community engagement." He added that the Bureau will provide an opportunity for Mr. Brum to be "engaged" and also to become an advocate for the County.

Mr. Brum explained that Barrington Business Association has a "rubber ducky" race which raises funds for local non-profits and that the bank provides a focal point for the area businesses. He added that his experience with these matters will aid him as a member of the Bureau's board.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know if Mr. Brum has experience with tourism and hospitality. She added that Mr. Brum's experience might be better suited to the Economic Development Commission.

Mr. Brum replied that he has no prior experience in tourism but possesses a business sense and that the two are very similar in that the goal is to attract customers both locally and nationally. He noted that the Bureau should examine, for example, how to bring tourists here from Seekonk.

Mr. Brum also informed the Council that he has much experience building relationships and that the Bureau should endeavor to build relationships with its tourism

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customers so that they will return time and again. He noted that the emotions experienced by tourists are no different than those of banking customers and that these should be provided with a "good feeling" which will result in return visits.

Responding to questions regarding his application Mr. Brum explained that he met with John Faria, Democrat Committee Chairman, and explained that he would like to become involved in the community through the Visitors Bureau. Mr. Faria forwarded this message to the Clerk on his behalf.

- e. Bristol County Water Authority - Board of Directors (2) (to fill a term to expire in February 2014 and an unexpired term to expire in 2013)
 - 1. Joseph G. Rego, 2 Ericsson Lane - interest/reappointment

LATE ITEM

- a. John E. Faria, (Chairman, Democrat Town Committee) re withdrawal of recommendation - reappointment of John G. Rego

Council Chairman Marshall noted that Mr. Rego has served well for (twenty) 20 years and has been helpful in many ways.

Councilman Herreshoff suggested that the Clerk should provide a "fine note of gratitude" to Mr. Rego.

Council Chairman Marshall further noted that the County has received a consistent water supply for twenty (20) years and that the Authority should look forward to gaining efficiency.

A discussion ensued regarding the party affiliation requirement.

The Council, by consensus, agreed to hold an additional interview session on Monday, September 26, 2011 beginning at 6:30 o'clock PM.

- 2. Joseph S. DeMelo, 3 Roosevelt Drive - interest/appointment

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Mr. DeMelo informed the Council that he first became involved in matters of the Water Authority due to his interest in the Shad pipeline connection. He informed the Council that the pipeline was his "big thing" and that he had not previously considered issues relating to pensions, etc.

Mr. DeMelo asked rhetorically if Bristol County is ready to pay for the Rehoboth hook-up.

Mr. DeMelo expressed concern that the BCWA directors did not communicate with the Town Council on a consistent basis and stated that he would prefer if the process was more "transparent" and that this would be his goal if appointed.

Councilman Herreshoff agreed with Mr. DeMelo that communication between the Council and Authority was lacking.

Mr. DeMelo informed the Council that he did not have a specific agenda and has been on boards and commissions in the past and has gained interest in serving over time.

Councilman Barboza asked to know why Mr. DeMelo has a negative opinion regarding the Shad pipeline when he reports that he has no agenda.

Mr. DeMelo stated that his concern is that of a rate payer and that he has researched the matter.

Councilman Barboza again expressed concern that Mr. DeMelo may have pre-conceived ideas and that this may impede his ability to serve as a director.

Mr. DeMelo stated that he formulated his opinion based upon reading reports concerning the pipeline.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know if Mr. DeMelo was aware of a better solution to the water supply issue beyond the Shad with Mr. DeMelo stating that he was not certain of a suitable option but that connecting to Pawtucket remains a possibility.

Councilwoman Parella stated that she was concerned about Mr. DeMelo's negative opinion of the Shad and stated that the BCWA needs a back-up supply. She also expressed concern that the Rehoboth situation may be a "red-herring" for the

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Water Authority to step away and never get the alternate supply. She again expressed concern regarding the appointment of a candidate who is determined to be in opposition to the Shad.

Mr. DeMelo stated that the Shad "is not the worst plan" but that it is not good at this time. He further stated that the BCWA needs a better relationship with the Massachusetts towns.

Councilman Herreshoff expressed concern that the BCWA has been dealing with this problem for twenty (20) years and has yet to resolve it. He added that this delay is unacceptable.

Mr. DeMelo informed the Council that the Town of Rehoboth is "not keen on doing this."

Councilwoman Parella stated that the Shad pipeline was a good idea twenty (20) years ago and that the matter has simply dragged-on since.

Mr. DeMelo agreed that the idea was valid twenty (20) years ago but that it was no longer so. He again noted that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is not a "friend" of the BCWA.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that the BCWA board should have resolved this matter and that it has not done well regarding this issue. He added that "things must change."

Councilwoman Parella again expressed concern that Mr. DeMelo may not be open minded.

A discussion ensued regarding desalinization with Mr. DeMelo expressing concern that a desalinization alternative may be too costly.

Councilman Barboza asked to know if Mr. DeMelo was Democrat, Republican or a representative of the Patriot group with Mr. DeMelo responding that he did not represent the Patriot group but rather attended the Patriot meeting as a concerned citizen.

Mr. DeMelo added that he was now registered as a Republican.

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Councilwoman Parella stated that she was not interested in party affiliation and that "there is not a Republican or Democrat way to build a sewer plant."

Councilman Barboza asked to know if Mr. DeMelo was registered as a Republican with Mr. DeMelo responding that he was.

Marina Peterson of 38 Thompson Avenue informed the Council that the East Bay Patriots is a non-partisan group.

Council Chairman Marshall stated that "moving forward" the BCWA Executive Director has resigned and that the Authority is a "critical resource" to the East Bay community. He added that the goal of the Water Authority directors should be to provide stability, consistency, accountability and openness to the public and also that the directors should be open-minded.

Council Chairman Marshall also stated that it is never advisable to respond quickly with poor information and also, as liaison to the Water Authority, he always made a point to pay attention.

Council Chairman Marshall again noted that the Water Authority is an "asset" belonging to the rate payers and that letters to the editor containing false and inflammatory accusations is damaging to this valuable asset.

Council Chairman Marshall noted that insofar as the Shad is concerned that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts cannot change the natural flow of the water and that during the past twenty (20) years "environmental issues" have hampered a resolution to the pipeline project. He noted that the existing pipeline is located in the center of a swamp and that the Authority has been allowed only to repair it when a replacement is actually needed. He explained that the repairs require no permits and that replacement requires permits difficult, if not impossible, to obtain.

Council Chairman Marshall also explained that relocating the pipeline out of the wetland is the problem.

Council Chairman Marshall stated that all water resources are critical to the State and that the Shad can possibly

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provide a redundant source that may become available to other parts of the State in the future if necessary.

Councilwoman Parella stated that she agreed with Council Chairman Marshall concerning the need for a redundant water supply and expressed concern that the State may be 100% dependent upon the Scituate Reservoir with no other options.

Mr. DeMelo agreed with Council Chairman Marshall and Councilwoman Parella concerning the need for a redundant water supply. He informed the Council that his only position is to state that the current Shad plan is "no good" and that his concern is related to the cost of same.

Councilwoman Parella stated that an analysis of the Shad project after twenty (20) years would likely be in order and that it may be a good investment to reexamine this project versus paying Providence. She added that she did not believe that any idea should be discarded.

Councilwoman Parella again stated that she was concerned that Mr. DeMelo had already made up his mind regarding this issue.

Council Chairman Marshall informed those present that he learned that someone placed a comment on a blog that the Water Authority should "sell out" to Providence. He added that the Providence supply is up for sale and that "no one wants it - it's a mess."

Council Chairman Marshall also informed those present that the Council has "not been sitting on its hands" and has been discussing the matter for a year and one half; trying to resolve same. He added that the appointee is "an extension of the Council" and whoever is chosen to represent the Town should do so seriously.

Mr. DeMelo stated that the problem with misinformation contained within blogs may be related to the Authority's unwillingness to provide information to the public.

Councilwoman Parella stated that the Board must now "roll up its sleeves and fix the problem."

Councilman Teixeira asked for Mr. DeMelo to identify the role of the director with Mr. DeMelo responding that the

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director must gather information and do what is best for the rate payers. He added his opinion that many of the problems of the Water Authority are not totally attributable to the directors but rather may stem from mismanagement of the managers.

Councilman Herreshoff stated that the directors must assume some responsibility if the managers have not worked well.

Mr. DeMelo stated that the problem was with the structure with Councilman Herreshoff responding that the directors should have changed the structure.

Mr. DeMelo stated that he would prefer if directors had term limits.

Councilman Teixeira asked to know if Mr. DeMelo read the audit with Mr. DeMelo stating that the audit contains some good suggestions but added that the auditors failed "to hit a home run" on everything.

He speculated that some of the operational facets of the Authority were lacking and added that the auditor likely did not have enough time to review these thoroughly.

Councilman Teixeira asked to know how Mr. DeMelo would fit into the role of a director with Mr. DeMelo responding that he is not an engineer but has management experience with Harley Davidson. He added that he manages people, finances, etc., and can bring this expertise to the table.

Councilman Teixeira asked to know Mr. DeMelo's opinion of the overtime pay controversy and how he would react to contract negotiation.

Mr. DeMelo informed the Council that he has never been part of a collective bargaining team but has worked on private company benefits, compensation plans, etc. He added that he has not worked in a union environment.

Councilman Barboza asked to know if the rate payers of Bristol should have a more weighted influence on the board since more rate payers are from Bristol with Mr. DeMelo responding that he would investigate this issue. He added that he believes that the current 3-3-3 board arrangement is workable.

TOWN SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY EVENING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

Louis P. Cirillo, CMC, Council Clerk

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