

CITY OF PROVIDENCE RHODE ISLAND



The Credo of the Providence City Council is to be Industrious, to be Watchful and to Promote Peace. The bee, as a symbol of industry, is derived from the early colonial saying "Busy as a Bee"; the goose, as a symbol of watchfulness, is derived from the story of the goose whose cackling saved Rome; and the lamb, as a symbol of peace, is derived from the biblical use of the lamb as a symbol of peace.



IN CITY COUNCIL
APR 18 2024

APPROVED:
Amal Mathur CLERK

CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 8 City Council Regular Council Meeting, Thursday, April 4, 2024, 6:00 o'clock P.M.

PRESIDING

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

RACHEL M. MILLER

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY, COUNCILMAN ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON, COUNCILORS ROIAS, SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN TAYLOR AND COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS - 10

ABSENT: COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS, COUNCILOR PICHARDO, COUNCILWOMAN RYAN AND COUNCILMAN VARGAS – 5.

ALSO PRESENT: TINA L. MASTROIANNI, CITY CLERK, SHERI A. PETRONIO, FIRST DEPUTY CITY CLERK, ANGELA J. HARRIS, FIRST DEPUTY CITY CLERK, NAPOLEON ASKIE, CITY SERGEANT AND JEFFREY DANA, CITY SOLICITOR

(SUBSEQUENTLY, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES AND COUNCILOR PICHARDO JOIN THE MEETING)

INVOCATION

The Invocation is given by **COUNCILWOMAN ANA S. VARGAS**.

"Dear God, Thank you for giving me the opportunity to see these four months for this year, and thank you for everybody that is hurting. God, I know you have everything under control in this world and thank you God for all my courage to give me the opportunity to do the work in our community. God, I want to say always thank you, thank you for giving me the opportunity to be here to support our community. Thank you, God, because everything that we have right now is because of you to give us the opportunities. God, you know everybody's heart, you know what we need and what we need to be together to give us a strong Providence to be better and better for the future for our life. Thank you for the opportunity again and thank you for all my courage again. And thank you because you give us all the solutions when we don't see the solution. You are the solution and I will always keep in my heart. Thank you and thank you again. God Bless you all.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COUNCILWOMAN SHELLY T. PETERSON Leads the Members of the City Council and the Assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILORS
ROIAS, SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES,
COUNCILOR PICHARDO AND COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS**

Resolution Recognizing the Achievements of Championship-Winning Youth
Recreational Basketball Teams.

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council acknowledges the outstanding achievements of the youth recreational basketball teams and their coaches who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, skill, and sportsmanship throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, The following teams have demonstrated exemplary performance, bringing pride and honor to our community:

- Boys 10U Champions: Zuccolo Rec Center
- Girls 12U Champions: Vincent Brown Rec Center
- Boys 12U Champions: Kennedy Rec Center
- Girls 14U Champions: Zuccolo Rec Center
- Boys 14U Champions: Zuccolo Rec Center

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council extends its heartfelt congratulations to the championship-winning teams for their remarkable achievements, perseverance, and dedication to excellence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council commends the coaches for their outstanding leadership, guidance, and mentorship, which have played an instrumental role in the success of their respective teams; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be presented to each championship-winning team and their coaches as a token of appreciation and recognition for their exceptional accomplishments.

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES Moves to take item 17 Out of Order, Seconded by COUNCILOR SANCHEZ.

COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES Moves Passage of item 17 on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED (WITH VOTE) [12 TO 0] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Journal of Proceedings No. 7 of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held March 21, 2024.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Dispense with the Reading of item 3 and Move Approval, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED (WITH VOTE) [12 TO 0] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

ELECTION OF INTERIM PROBATE COURT JUDGE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER calls for Nominations for Interim Probate Court Judge of the Providence Probate Court for the period of April 15, 2024 through July 15, 2024.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR nominates **PAUL JABOUR, ESQUIRE** and this nomination is Seconded by **COUNCILMAN GONCALVES**.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER calls for further Nominations and there being none, on motion of **COUNCILMAN TAYLOR**, Seconded by **COUNCILMAN GONCALVES**, it is voted that Nominations be closed and the Clerk is directed to cast One Ballot for **PAUL JABOUR, ESQUIRE**.

The Clerk casts one ballot as directed.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER thereupon declares **PAUL JABOUR, ESQUIRE**, duly Elected Interim Probate Court Judge of the Providence Probate Court for the period of April 15, 2024 through July 15, 2024.

APPOINTMENT BY THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Communication from Council President Rachel M. Miller, dated March 29, 2024, submitting her appointment of Dwayne Keys of 391 Pine Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, as a member of the Providence Sustainability Commission, for a term to expire on August 29, 2025. (Mr. Keys replaces Ms. Van Amburgh who has resigned).

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 5, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

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| RESULT: | RECEIVED |
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ORDINANCE(S) SECOND READING

The Following Ordinances were in City Council March 21, 2024, Read and Passed the First Time and are Returned for Passage the Second Time:

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILMAN ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, HARRIS AND COUNCILMAN VARGAS, (By Request):

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 "Revenue and Finance", of the Providence Code of Ordinances, to add Article XVIII, "Tax Amnesty Period."

WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island adopted R.I. General Laws § 44-5-88, enabling City Councils to adopt, by Ordinance, the terms of a local tax amnesty period for the collection of delinquent tangible personal property and motor vehicle tax bills.

Now Therefore, Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

Section 1. Chapter 21, "Revenue and Finance," is hereby amended to add Article XVIII, "Tax Amnesty Period" as follows:

21-312. Tax Amnesty

- (a) As authorized in R.I. Gen. Laws § 44-5-88, the tax collector is hereby authorized to waive interest and penalties on overdue tangible personal property taxes and motor vehicle taxes during two (2) separate sixty (60) day periods in fiscal year 2024. Any request for a waiver of interest and penalties must be made in writing, signed and dated by the taxpayer and submitted to the tax collector within the waiver periods outlined in subsection (e) below. The tax collector shall provide the form requesting a waiver for interest and penalties on overdue tangible taxes and motor vehicle taxes.

- (b) The decision of the tax collector shall be rendered in writing and contain a notice to the City Council. The tax collector may only approve an application for a waiver of interest and penalties in cases where the taxpayer/applicant has paid in full the principle amount of taxes owed prior to or at the time of the application, providing that they meet the requirements as determined by the tax collector.
- (c) If the taxpayer receives an adverse decision from the tax collector, the taxpayer/applicant shall immediately pay the interest and penalties owed which are the subject of the claim and may within ten (10) business days from the date of the decision, file a claim for reimbursement with the City Council. No such claim shall be granted unless the taxpayer has paid all interest and penalties on overdue tangible taxes and motor vehicle taxes.
- (d) Any request for reimbursement for interest and penalties made to the City Council pursuant to subsection (c) and that is in compliance with the criteria outlined in subsections (a), (b) and (c) above may be granted by the City Council.
- (e) The first fiscal year 2024 sixty (60) day period shall run from May 1, 2024, through and including June 30, 2024.
- (f) No waivers of interest and penalties for any taxes owed in fiscal year 2024 shall be granted.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

**COUNCILMEN GONCALVES, ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMEN HARRIS,
PETERSON AND COUNCILOR SANCHEZ**

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence, Entitled: "Motor Vehicles and Traffic," to amend to add Article XXI "Weight Limits."

WHEREAS, Pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 31-25-26, the General Assembly has granted municipalities to prohibit the operation of trucks or other commercial vehicles, or may impose limitations as to the weight of those vehicles on designated highways under their jurisdiction;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

Section 1. Chapter 15, "Motor Vehicles and Traffic" is hereby amended to add Article XII, "Weight Limits," as follows:

ARTICLE XII.- WEIGHT LIMITS

Sec. 15-141. Weight of vehicles on bridges.

No person shall drive or cause to be driven any vehicle upon or across any existing bridge in the city, the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of which vehicle including the load exceeds Fifteen (15) tons. This article does not exempt trucks holding a valid overweight permit issued by the State of Rhode Island.

Sec. 15-142. Weight of trucks on certain streets.

(a) *Definitions.* Within this section:

“Truck” means every vehicle falling within any definition in Rhode Island General Laws §§ 31-1-4 and 31-1-5.

“Weight” means gross vehicle weight.

(b) *Weight limits.* Trucks exceeding the listed weight are prohibited from operating on the following streets between the listed extents:

| Street | Extents of Weight Limit | Weight Limit |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Angell Street | Benefit Street to Wayland Avenue | 15 tons |
| South Angell Street | Wayland Avenue to Butler Avenue | 15 tons |
| Waterman Street | Benefit Street to Butler Avenue | 15 tons |
| Gano Street | Angell Street to Trenton Street | 15 tons |
| Medway Street | Butler Avenue to Gano Street | 15 tons |
| Butler Avenue | Angell Street to South Angell Street | 15 tons |
| Butler Avenue | Waterman Street to Pitman Street | 15 tons |

(c) This section shall not apply to:

- (1) Vehicles that are statutorily exempt under R.I.G.L. § 31-25-2;
- (2) School buses, as defined by R.I.G.L. § 31-1-3(aa);
- (3) Vehicles designed and used for the hauling of refuse when hauling refuse;
- (4) Vehicles whose origin or destination abuts the restricted roadway; and
- (5) Vehicles performing maintenance, utility work, cleaning, snow removal, or de-icing in, on, above, and along the restricted roadway.
- (6) Vehicles owned and operated by the State of Rhode Island and City of Providence or vendors contracted by the State of Rhode Island and the City of Providence and being used as a vendor at the time they are traveling on the restricted roadway.

Section 2. Section 23-154, “Weight of vehicles on bridges,” having been transferred to Sec. 15-141, is hereby repealed, except with respect to duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before the date of enactment of this Ordinance. An offense committed under Sec. 23-154 is deemed to have been taken or committed under Sec. 15-141.

Section 3. Section 15-2, "Penalties for traffic violations," is hereby amended as follows:

(a) *Generally.* The general penalties provided for by section 1-10 of this Code of Ordinances shall apply to violations of this chapter or any regulations made there under except that any person electing to appear before the clerk of court, or mailing the same, in lieu of a personal appearance before the Providence Municipal Court and admitting the violation charged, shall be punished by a fine as hereinafter respectively set forth:

Offense fine

Parking from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.*\$20.00

Overtime parking from 5:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.20.00

Parking without permit in a residential zone15.00

Parking at expired meter25.00

Parking during an emergency100.00

Parking so as to obstruct the flow of traffic75.00

Parking in prohibited area (no parking)30.00

Parking within eight (8) feet of fire hydrant100.00

Parking in loading zone30.00

Parking in taxi stand30.00

Parking within twenty-five (25) feet of corner30.00

Parking to obstruct driveway30.00

Parking within twelve (12) inches of a driveway as measured by a line running along the curb in either direction30.00

Parking on sidewalk100.00

Parking in a bicycle lane100.00**

Standing in prohibited areas30.00

Double parking (more than three (3) feet from curb)30.00

Parking in marked bus stop100.00**

Parking in excess of one (1) foot, but not more than three (3) feet from curb30.00

Parking with left wheels to curb30.00

Angle parking30.00

Parking on marked crosswalk or within intersection100.00**

Stopping bus away from curb30.00

Parking in a tow zone100.00

Violation of moving vehicle traffic regulation75.00

Violation of street or bridge weight limits200.00

* Except in those areas designated as resident permit parking areas (which allow for residential permit parking only between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.).

** The city shall contribute any increase in revenue generated from the increase in fine amounts to smart growth initiatives.

In the event any of the foregoing stated fines are not paid or a plea of not guilty to the citation is entered prior to the fourteenth day after date of violation, said fines shall be doubled.

In the event any of the foregoing stated fines are not paid or a plea of not guilty to the citation is entered subsequent to the fourteenth day and prior to the twenty-eighth day after date of violations, said fines shall be tripled.

(b) *Meter violations.* Where the violation occurs in a metered space it shall be a separate violation for vehicles remained parked in said space for each consecutive unit of time beyond the first unit of time, up to a maximum of two (2) violations.

Section 4. The Department of Public Works is hereby directed to erect signs stating “WEIGHT LIMIT 15 TONS EXCEPT LOCAL DELIVERIES” or a substantially similar message at appropriate locations to carry out the intent of this Ordinance.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 6 and 7 and Pass for the Second Time on a Roll Call Vote, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 "Revenue and Finance", of the Providence Code of Ordinances, to add Article XVIII, "Tax Amnesty Period."

RESULT: READ/PASSED SECOND TIME [12 TO 3]

MOVER: Councilman Taylor

SECONDER: Councilman Goncalves

AYES: Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3.

The Motion for Passage the Second Time is Sustained.

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence, Entitled: "Motor Vehicles and Traffic," to amend to add Article XXI "Weight Limits."

RESULT: READ/PASSED SECOND TIME [10 TO 3]
MOVER: Councilman Taylor
SECONDER: Councilman Goncalves
AYES: Council President Miller, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 10.
ABSTAIN: Councilor AnderBois and Councilwoman Anthony – 2.
ABSENT: Councilwomen Harris, Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3.

The Motion for Passage the Second Time is Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCILMEN VARGAS, ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON AND COUNCILOR PICHARDO

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 "Revenue and Finance", of the Providence Code of Ordinances, to add Article XIX, "Providence 8 Law Qualifications".

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 8, Substitute and Pass for the First Time on a Roll Call Vote, As Amended and Refer to the Committee on Finance, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

RESULT: READ/PASSED1X/REFERRED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Councilman Taylor
SECONDER: Councilman Goncalves
AYES: Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12.
ABSENT: Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3.

The Motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained and Referred to the Committee on Finance, As Amended.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND COUNCILOR SANCHEZ

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 27 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence Entitled "The City of Providence Zoning Ordinance" approved November 24, 2014, as amended, by further amending Table 12-1, Sections 1202, 1204 and 1402.

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| RESULT: | REFERRED |
| TO: | Committee on Ordinances |

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, (By Request):

An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Plan for the Property located at 136 Westminster Street.

COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON

An Ordinance in Amendment of the Home Rule Charter Article X, Section 1006 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence Entitled: "Department of Public Property", and Chapter 21, "Revenue and Finance", Article II, "Division of Purchase Orders" Section 21-27, "Competitive Bidding" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence.

COUNCILMAN VARGAS, (By Request):

An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Plan for the Property Located at 1836 Westminster Street.

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| RESULT: | REFERRED |
| TO: | Committee on Finance |

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 9 through 12, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Recuses on item 9

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 9 to the Committee on Ordinances and items 10 through 12 to the Committee on Finance.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILMEN GONCALVES, ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCILORS PICHARDO AND SANCHEZ

Resolution in Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of Angelo's Civita Farnese Restaurant.

WHEREAS, In the year 1924, Angelo's Civita Farnese Restaurant first opened its doors to the bustling streets of Federal Hill, inviting patrons to savor the authentic flavors of Farnese, a quaint village nestled 60 miles northwest of Rome, whose culinary legacy would be faithfully honored within its walls; and

WHEREAS, Even after a century of service, the essence of Angelo's endures, a testament to its unwavering commitment to fresh ingredients and a welcoming, family-friendly ambiance that has captivated patrons young and old alike; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of the last 100 years, Angelo's has persevered through the trials of history, weathering the tempests of economic hardship, including the tumultuous Great Depression, when its innovative tradition of pairing meatballs with french fries became a symbol of resilience and resourcefulness, ensuring that no patron would depart with an empty stomach or an empty wallet; and

WHEREAS, Angelo's emerged as the quintessential "workingman's" sanctuary, a haven where the scent of freshly prepared dishes, steeped in centuries-old recipes, filled the air, promising not extravagance, but rather a humble abundance of hearty, soul-satisfying fare at prices accessible to all, creating an atmosphere as comforting and inviting as a cherished family gathering; and

WHEREAS, The torch of tradition passed from founder Angelo Mastrodicasa to his dedicated daughters, who carried forth the flame of culinary excellence, culminating in the momentous relocation of the restaurant to its present residence at 141 Atwells Avenue in 1965, where it has remained an iconic fixture ever since, under the stewardship of the Antignano family, who have imbued Angelo's with their own spirit of generosity and devotion to quality, ensuring that each meal served is infused with the same love and care that has defined Angelo's throughout its storied history; and

WHEREAS, It is within the hallowed halls of Angelo's that time stands still, where the original community tables still stand as witnesses to the shared joys of countless gatherings, and where the whimsical charm of the L.G.B. train from Germany continues to ride along its 125 feet of solid brass track, delighting diners young and old since 1994; and

WHEREAS, With the simple deposit of a quarter, the train embarks on its journey around the dining room ceiling, a whimsical tradition that serves a noble purpose, as one hundred percent of all donations benefit the chosen Choo Choo Charity of the month, dedicated to supporting local children's charities in Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, In the thirty years since its inception, Angelo's Civita Farnese Restaurant has exemplified the spirit of generosity and community, with donations exceeding \$40,000 to date, a testament to its enduring commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of those in need; and

WHEREAS, As the mantle of leadership passed through generations, from Bob and Lee Antignano to their daughters Cindy and Jamie, the indomitable spirit of Angelo's has endured, a testament to the enduring legacy of familial dedication and unwavering commitment to excellence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council extends its heartfelt admiration and congratulations to Angelo's Civita Farnese Restaurant on its momentous 100th anniversary, celebrating a century of delicious food, familial tradition, and community spirit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to Jamie Antignano and the entire Antignano family, as a token of our deep appreciation and admiration for their unwavering commitment to excellence and their profound impact on our community

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCILORS
ROIAS, SANCHEZ AND COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS**

Resolution Opposing the Removal of South Water Street Bike Lanes.

WHEREAS, The City of Providence has firmly committed to promoting urban mobility, public safety, and environmental sustainability through the thoughtful development of inclusive transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, The introduction of two-way protected bike lanes, including on South Water Street, has notably resulted in a 10% decrease in fatalities, a 21% decrease in total crashes per year, a 22% decrease in injuries per year, a 55-61% decrease in pedestrian injuries, and a 53-63% decrease in serious injuries, underscoring the significant impact of these lanes on enhancing public safety, as evidenced by an analysis of crash data from 2014-2023; and

WHEREAS, During his recent visit to Providence, in a question posted by reporter Bill Bartholomew, United States Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg emphasized the importance of such initiatives by stating, "the big picture is we want to make sure we move towards more accessibility and not less, more bike and pedestrian connectivity and not less...I've been talking a lot to the Mayor and his focus about safety...This is really about the safety of getting around our communities in a time when the biggest category contributing to the rise of roadway deaths in recent years has been bike and pedestrian fatalities. Bike infrastructure helps us fight that trend, "highlighting the critical role of bike lanes in combating the increase in roadway deaths; and

WHEREAS, On January 14, 2022, the South Water Street bike lanes were recognized as one of the Five Best New Bikeways in the United States by PeopleForBikes.org, a testament to the project's excellence and its contribution to reimagining urban spaces for safer, more sustainable transportation; and

WHEREAS, The transformation of South Water Street from a hazardous highway ramp into a pedestrian-friendly Complete Street has dramatically improved the area's safety and livability. This includes traffic calming measures that led to an 84-96% reduction in the rate of vehicles traveling over 30 mph, the installation of new pedestrian crossings connecting to Memorial Park, ADA-compliant designs, and enhanced bus islands, all contributing to a more inclusive and safer urban environment; and

WHEREAS, The successful realization of the South Water Street bike lanes stemmed from a broad and inclusive consultation process, involving multiple public meetings and direct feedback from local residents, businesses, and stakeholders. This collective effort addressed concerns from the former two way drag strip, ranging from safety and noise disturbances caused by loud music, street racing, ATVs, altered mufflers, droves of motorcycles, and other activities that detracted from the waterfront's tranquility, to ensuring the preservation of on-street parking vital for local businesses; and

WHEREAS, Avid supporters and neighborhood abutters have voiced their concerns over the safety and quality of life along the waterfront, which prior to the bike lane installation, was compromised by dangerous activities and noise pollution. The bike lanes have since fostered a safer, more serene environment, contributing significantly to the community's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Any proposed dismantling of the South Water Street bike lanes runs counter to the principles and objectives of recent city initiatives, such as the groundbreaking of the Woonasquatucket Greenway project and the amendment to the Green & Complete Streets Ordinance, reflecting a city-wide dedication to sustainability, connectivity, and public well-being; and

WHEREAS, Any attempt to remove these bike lanes not only undermines the Mayor Smiley's recent commitment to Vision Zero but also risks forfeiting substantial federal and city investments aimed at expanding the urban trail network, thereby affecting job creation, public safety, and overall connectivity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council stands firmly against the removal of the South Water Street bike lanes, recognizing their indispensable role in enhancing the city's safety, sustainability, and equitable transportation access; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council will not and does not support the allocation of Capital Infrastructure Plan funds or any other city funds towards the dismantling of the South Water Street bike lanes, as such actions have not been sanctioned by the Council and directly contradict our city's strategic goals for its transportation infrastructure and environmental policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, in accordance to the *recently* enacted Green and Complete Streets Ordinance amendment signed into law in December 2023, in which "any removal of complete streets features, or any new construction or improvement of off-road bicycle paths or multi-use trails" must be approved by the Green and Complete Streets Advisory Council, we call upon the Green and Complete Streets Advisory Council to oppose any efforts to remove the South Water Street bike lanes.

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILORS ANDERBOIS, ROIAS, SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN ESPINAL,
COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON AND COUNCILOR PICHARDO**

Resolution Urging State Grant Support and/or Reimbursement Support for Businesses
Impacted by the Washington Bridge Closure.

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) announced an unforeseen and immediate closure of the westbound side of the Washington Bridge, significantly disrupting traffic along the I-195 corridor, and

WHEREAS, This closure, initiated for structural concerns, has markedly affected local businesses, particularly in areas such as Wayland Square, Hope Street, and Federal Hill, contributing to reduced customer foot traffic and economic hardship for businesses, and

WHEREAS, Governor Dan McKee, on March 14, revealed plans for the complete demolition and reconstruction of the I-195 Washington Bridge, a project with an anticipated completion in 2026, extending the period of economic impact on local businesses, and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Small Business Administration has acknowledged the economic detriment caused by this infrastructure project, prompting the approval of \$586,200 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans to assist 951 applying businesses across Providence, Bristol, and Kent counties, in addition to businesses in Bristol County, Massachusetts, and Windham County, Connecticut, yet recognizing the need for further support, and

WHEREAS, Heather Singleton, Interim CEO of the Rhode Island Hospitality Association, has underscored the vital role of community support in sustaining small businesses during these challenging times.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence hereby urges Governor Dan McKee and the Rhode Island General Assembly to take immediate and comprehensive action to provide grants or reimbursement assistance to business owners for losses incurred due to the Washington Bridge closure and to actively seek additional funding avenues to provide grants for businesses, particularly those in the most affected areas in Providence such as Wayland Square, Hope Street, and Federal Hill etc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council calls upon all available resources to be mobilized to support and promote Providence businesses, encouraging both residents and visitors to support the local economy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council urges the exploration of all potential funding sources, including state and federal grants, to provide immediate and long-term financial assistance to businesses facing economic hardship as a direct result of the bridge closure and construction project.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That this resolution serves as a testament to the City of Providence's commitment to its business community, recognizing the importance of swift and effective action to mitigate the financial impacts of the Washington Bridge closure, and to foster a vibrant, resilient local economy and that upon its passage a copy of this resolution be sent the Office of Governor Dan McKee, the Office of the Speaker of the House K. Joseph Shekarchi, the Office of the Senate President Dominick Ruggerio, and the Office of Mayor Brett Smiley.

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON,
COUNCILORS PICHARDO, ROIAS, COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS AND
COUNCILMAN ESPINAL**

Petition to the City Plan Commission and Resolution in Support of the Creation of “The Wickenden Street Historic District” Overlay.

WHEREAS, Wickenden Street and properties in surrounding areas hold significant historical, cultural, and architectural value in Providence, and

WHEREAS, Preserving the character and integrity of Wickenden Street and properties in surrounding areas is of utmost importance to the community, and

WHEREAS, Wickenden Street and surrounding areas in Fox Point embody historical significance, warranting the establishment of a Historic District Overlay expansion, and

WHEREAS, The establishment of a Wickenden Street Historic District Overlay will provide additional protections for the historic buildings, structures, and features along the street and surrounding areas, and

WHEREAS, The Wickenden Street Historic District Overlay aims to promote the preservation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of the area's historical assets. It also ensures that any future development conforms to the appropriate guidelines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby supports the implementation and enforcement of the Wickenden Street Historic District Overlay and the expansion of the historic district overlay in this area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Providence Preservation Society.

**COUNCILWOMAN RYAN, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILMAN
GONCALVES, COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN ESPINAL,
COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES AND PETERSON**

Resolution Urging Rhode Island College to Address Drainage Issues Caused by Recent Construction.

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council acknowledges the importance of infrastructure improvements and construction projects for the advancement of Rhode Island College (RIC); and

WHEREAS, Recent construction activities related to the track field at Rhode Island College have resulted in significant drainage issues, leading to flooding on Rowley Avenue and causing damage to abutting property basements; and

WHEREAS, The flooding caused by these drainage issues poses a serious risk to public safety, property, and the overall well-being of residents in the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island College has a responsibility to ensure that construction projects are carried out in a manner that minimizes adverse impacts on the surrounding community and that any resulting issues are promptly addressed; and

WHEREAS, Under City Ordinance, developers are required to maintain stormwater on-site and prevent erosive flows to city streets and private property, as outlined in Article VI, Post-Construction Stormwater Control of the City Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council urges Rhode Island College to act with urgency to resolve the drainage issues caused by recent construction activities related to the track field, ensuring that proper drainage systems are implemented to prevent further flooding and damage to adjacent properties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Rhode Island College is encouraged to engage with the affected residents and the City of Providence to collaboratively address the drainage concerns and mitigate the impacts of the construction on the surrounding community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the President of Rhode Island College, the Board of Trustees, the Director of the Department of Public Works, the Director of the Department of Inspection and Standards, the Office of Governor Dan McKee, the Office of the RI Senate President Dominick J. Ruggerio, the Office of the RI Speaker of the House K. Joseph Shekarchi, and the Office of Providence Mayor Brett Smiley to underscore the importance of addressing these drainage issues promptly and effectively.

COUNCILORS SANCHEZ, COUNCILOR ROIAS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILMEN GONCALVES, ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON AND COUNCILOR PICHARDO

Resolution of the Providence City Council Recognizing March 31, 2024 International Transgender Day of Visibility.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 13 through 19 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

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|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | PASSED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Expression and states:

“There are not a lot of businesses in this city that has been operating continuously for 100 years with the same family. This weekend Angelo’s on Federal Hill is celebrating their 100th Anniversary. We did just pass a resolution in their honor and I look forward to bringing it to them this weekend and I encourage you all to come visit.”

REPORT(S) FROM COMMITTEE(S)

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE COUNCILWOMAN HELEN D. ANTHONY, Chairwoman

Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Adopted:

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN VARGAS AND COUNCILWOMAN
GRAVES**

An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 2018-49, No. 464, "An Ordinance Establishing a
Tax Stabilization Agreement for Steeple Street, LLC."

**COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 20 and Pass for the First
Time on a Roll Call Vote, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.**

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| RESULT: | READ/PASSED FOR THE FIRST TIME [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

The Motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained.

Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Received and Approved:

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated March 15, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Section 302(b) of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, he is this day appointing **Macky McCleary** of 97 Loring Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island 02906, as a member of the **Providence Public Building Authority** for a term to expire on July 31, 2028, and respectfully submits the same for your approval. (Mr. McCleary replaces Mr. Pinales whose term has expired).

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 21 and Receive and Approve, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

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| RESULT: | RECEIVED AND APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

**COMMITTEE ON WARD BOUNDARIES
COUNCILOR JUAN M. PICHARDO, Chair**

Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Received:

Communication from the Committee on Ward Boundaries conveying the Committee's recommendation for the establishment of the City of Providence's Five (5) School Board Regions.

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| RESULT: | RECEIVED |
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FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Petition from Tom A. Cologna, 1400 Rocky Ridge Drive, Suite 150, Roseville, CA 95661, requesting a Zone Change for the property located on Assessor's Plat 65, Lot 152 (52 River Avenue), from M-1 to M-MU.

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| RESULT: | REFERRED |
| TO: | Committee on Ordinances |

Petition for Compensation for Injures and Damages, viz:

Mary Richards
Laura Luongo
Johnatan Araujo
Patrick Butler Jr.
Linda Mollicone
Heather Mcpherson
Rebecca Gaines
Raymond Mooney
Lori Foley
Nicholas Crudale
Tim Bruce

Karin Wetherill
Ashley Hanley
Aoua Royster
(Law Office of David Cass)
Natalie Munoz
Giovanni Simmons
(Joseph J. Voccola & Associates)
Samira Xaxva-Bey
Kathleen Conin
Yunus Atas
Aquila Toby

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| RESULT: | REFERRED |
| TO: | Committee on Claims and Pending Suits |

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated March 29, 2024, submitting the Community Development Block Grant Budget for Program Year 2024-2025.

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| RESULT: | REFERRED |
| TO: | Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal and Planning |

Report from James J. Lombardi, III, Chairman of the Retirement Board Employees' Retirement System, submitting the Annual Actuarial Report as of July 1, 2023, presented to the Providence Retirement Board of the Employees' Retirement System on March 20, 2024, by our actuarial firm, Bolton Partners, Inc.

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| RESULT: | RECEIVED |
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COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 22 through 26, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Receives item 22, Refer item 23 to the Committee on Ordinance, item 24 to the Committee on Claims and Pending Suits, item 25 to the Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal and Planning and Receive item 26.

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS
"IN CONGRATULATIONS"**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Resolution Extending Congratulations.

RESOLVED, that the Members of the City Council hereby extend their Sincere
Congratulations to the following:

Daniel Elvis Desilets, in recognition of the celebration of your 18th Birthday on March 16, 2024!

George Lazzareschi, President Italo-American Club of Rhode Island, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Ernest Ricci, President Grand Lodge of Rhode Island Sons and Daughters of Italy, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Gary Disarro, President Loggia Piave #364 Sons and Daughters of Italy, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Joseph Santilli, President Madonna Del Rosario Society, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Frank Ciccone, President Italian American War Veterans of Rhode Island, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Joseph Calabro Jr., President Verrazzano Day Observance Committee, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

David Vendittelli, President Pannese Society, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Robert DeStefano, President Young Pannese Social Club, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Nicholas Narducci, President St. Anthony's Society, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Rick Simone, Executive Director Federal Hill Merchants Association, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Peter Marinucci representing Pellegrino "Rino" Maselli, President, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Joe Rocco, President Rhode Island Italian American Hall of Fame in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Chief Judge John J. Lombardi, Keynote Speaker, in recognition of the celebration of your participation at the 2024 St. Joseph's Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Providence City Hall.

Ruben Garcia, en reconocimiento del Trabajo que está haciendo por la juventud de Providence y Estados Unidos a través del deporte por medio de la Federación Nacional de Futbol Guatemalteco.

Rigoberto Gomez, en reconocimiento del Trabajo que está haciendo por la juventud de Providence y Estados Unidos a través del deporte por medio de la Federación Nacional de Futbol Guatemalteco.

Mario Acevedo, en reconocimiento del Trabajo que está haciendo por la juventud de Providence y Estados Unidos a través del deporte por medio de la Federación Nacional de Futbol Guatemalteco.

Licely Sanchez, en reconocimiento del Trabajo que está haciendo por la juventud de Providence y Estados Unidos a través del deporte por medio de la Federación Nacional de Futbol Guatemalteco.

Ismael Pinzon, en reconocimiento del Trabajo que está haciendo por la juventud de Providence y Estados Unidos a través del deporte por medio de la Federación Nacional de Futbol Guatemalteco.

Café Italia, in recognition of the celebration of your Grand Opening at 228 Atwells Avenue.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 27 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

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| RESULT: | PASSED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS
"IN MEMORIAM"**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Resolution Extending Sympathy.

RESOLVED, That the Members of the City Council hereby extend their Sincere Sympathy to the families of the following:

Luis Javier Duran

Gary Jude Cook

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 28 and Pass on a Unanimous Rising Vote, Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.

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| RESULT: | PASSED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND RULE 16(B) OF THE RULES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL IN ORDER TO TAKE A MATTER NOT
APPEARING ON THE PRINTED DOCKET**

**COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Suspend Rule 16(b) of the Rules of the City Council
in order to take a Matter Not Appearing on the Printed Docket, Seconded by
COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.**

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES

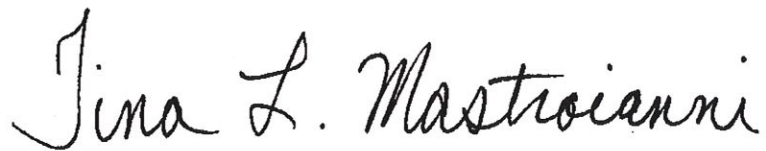
Resolution Opposing the plan for a shared gymnasium between Harry Kizirian Elementary
School and Roger's Recreational Center.

**COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 29 and Lay on the Table,
Seconded by COUNCILMAN GONCALVES.**

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| RESULT: | LAID ON TABLE [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Councilman Taylor |
| SECONDER: | Councilman Goncalves |
| AYES: | Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilman Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 12. |
| ABSENT: | Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Vargas – 3. |

CONVENTION

There being no further business, on Motion of **COUNCILMAN TAYLOR**, Seconded by **COUNCILMAN GONCALVES**, it is voted to adjourn in memory of Leonardo Urena and Emoni Carolyn Chaney at 7:04 o'clock P.M., to meet again **THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024 at 6:00 o'clock P.M.**



TINA L. MASTROIANNI
CITY CLERK

*This meeting was live streamed and the recording is available on our
YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmOraI1TX54&t=3297s>*

The City of Providence is committed to providing individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate and benefit from the City's programs, activities and services. If you have a disability and require accommodations in order to fully participate in this activity, contact Leonela Felix, Esq., Ethics Education and ADA Coordinator at 401-680-5333 or LFelix@ProvidenceRI.gov. Providing at least 72 hours' notice will help to ensure availability.