



**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD**

**JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR**

August 11, 2016

City Council President Linda Morad  
Honorable Members of the City Council  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Morad and Honorable Members of the City Council:

I am submitting for your approval the APPOINTMENT of ROBERT W. EKSTROM as CITY AUDITOR and requesting a 60 day Residency Waiver to allow him to complete the purchase of a residence in New Bedford.

Sincerely,

Jonathan F. Mitchell  
Mayor

JFM/smt




OFFICE OF THE CFO  
ARI J. SKY  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

August 10, 2016

**TO:** Mayor Jon Mitchell  
New Bedford City Council

**FROM:** Ari J. Sky 

**SUBJECT:** Reappointment of Robert Ekstrom

The purpose of this memorandum is to request that the City reappoint Robert Ekstrom to the position of City Auditor. Mr. Ekstrom resigned from his position on March 19, 2016. During his tenure, he played a key role in improving the City's accounting procedures and compliance with outside reporting requirements.

Attached please find Mr. Ekstrom's July 20, 2016, letter requesting reinstatement. As you will note, Bob has signed an agreement to purchase a residence in New Bedford. I respectfully request that the City Council grant a 60-day waiver of the residency requirement to allow him to complete his purchase, and would also note that Mr. Ekstrom indicates in his letter that he would intend to remain in the City Auditor position for at least three years in order to ensure stability.

Thank you for your consideration. I am very pleased that the opportunity has arisen to return Bob to City employment. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further.

*Attachment*

**Robert W. Ekstrom**  
**30 Wampanog Lane**  
**Tiverton, RI 02878**

July 20, 2016

Ari Sky  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of New Bedford  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: City Auditor

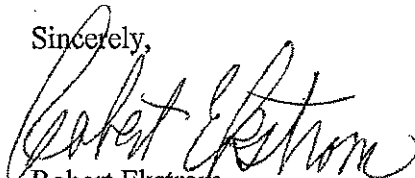
Ari:

The decision to resign my position as City Auditor this past February was difficult. It may be the first time in my career that I left a job where things were heading in the right direction but full accomplishment had yet to be achieved. My resignation was based on the belief that the Mayor could no longer recommend any further residency waivers on my behalf beyond the one that was to expire on June 15, and that timeframe was not feasible in which to comply with the City's residency requirement. I've come to understand such an assumption was misplaced and I regret the decision to leave my position on that basis.

While the City Auditor's position has remained vacant, I remain convinced that my skill sets and work ethic make me the best person to fill it. Therefore, I ask you to consider me for reappointment and have enclosed a City application in support of my candidacy. I must also respectfully request that the Mayor and City Council grant me a 60-day waiver of the City's residency requirement to provide sufficient time to complete the purchase of a two-family residence on 25 Arch Street, for which my wife and I presently are under agreement. Should I be reappointed, it is my intention to serve the City for at least the next three years and bring stability to the Office of the City Auditor.

We have a unique relationship in that you know what I can bring to the City and I have an intimate knowledge of its operations and how to work with the many dedicated employees who make it run. Impactful roles in organizations that truly make a difference in people's lives are hard to find, as is a qualified candidate who is willing to step in and work hard at making that organization even better. I am eager to discuss this mutual opportunity further and to take whatever steps may be necessary leading to my reappointment.

Sincerely,



Robert Ekstrom