



City of New Bedford
IN COMMITTEE

February 28, 2019

The Honorable City Council
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

The Committee on Appointments & Briefings at a Meeting held on Monday, February 25, 2019, considered a COMMUNICATION/DEMOLITION, Anne Louro, Preservation Planner, to City Council, re: BUILDING DEMOLITION REVIEW OF 61 WAMSUTTA STREET, (MAP 78, LOT 125) a Circa 1889 two-story brick mill structure – advising that “the purpose of the Demolition Delay Ordinance is to preserve and protect significant buildings and structures within New Bedford and to encourage owners of Preferably Preserved Historic Buildings and Structure to seek out alternative options that will preserve, rehabilitate or restore such buildings; the structure is located in the Wamsutta Mill National Register Historic District and is associated with the broad architectural, cultural, economic, political and social history of the City; as part of the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of the structure to accommodate 30 units of housing, partial demolition of non-historic fabric will occur; including the replacement of windows; the rehabilitation is utilizing both the Federal and the State Rehabilitation Tax Credit Programs; as such, the project must meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation; “in light of these findings, the Preservation Planner has determined that the structure at 61 Wamsutta Street is a Historically Significant and a Preferably Preserved Historic Building; however, the building is not regulated by the Demolition Delay Ordinance, as the intent is to restore and preserve the building, not to demolish.” (Ref’d 1/10/19)

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to follow the Recommendations of the Historical Commission and Grant Partial Demolition and replacement of existing windows at 61 WAMSUTTA STREET, (MAP 78, LOT 125). This motion passed on a voice vote.

IN COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS &
BRIEFINGS

Debora Coelho

Councillor Debora Coelho, Chairperson

DC: dmb