

OPINION: Why do part-time New Bedford City Councilors earn more than their full-time working constituents?

The following was posted in our **New Bedford Facebook group**:

"As of 2017, could someone please explain why the members of the New Bedford City Council are being paid \$423.97 per week or \$22,046.44 per year, for a part-time job, when the income per capita for New Bedford is \$21,181?

I'm aware of the Committee meetings, neighborhood meetings, etc as well as being called at home by constituents, but that is no justification for that pay rate which includes benefits and retirement after 10 years.

As of 2012 Brockton City Councilors were paid \$10,000 and Councilors from Lynn were paid \$15,301. I also believe the New Bedford City Councilors receive financial compensation for committee membership, chairs, etc and an automatic pay increase annually "Cost of Living Adjustment" they voted themselves years back so they would never have to publicly vote themselves a pay increase again." – Ron Ouelett

Have an essay or opinion to share? Email info@newbedfordguide.com