

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the Board of Aldermen

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2011, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen's minutes. While reasonable efforts have been made to assure the accuracy of the data provided, do not rely on this information without first checking with the City Clerk.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Absent	
Walter F. Pero	Ward Four Alderman	Absent	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	

1. #191721 Call of the Roll.
Roll Call

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

2. #191722 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, June 9, 2011.
Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED

CITATIONS

3. #191723 Citation
By Ald. Gewirtz, and the Entire Board
Commending Kaleigh Kosta, a Brown School student, who remembered her Student Awareness Fire Education training and acted heroically to save her family when their home caught fire.

RESULT: APPROVED

4. #191724 Citation
By Ald. Roche, and the Entire Board and the Mayor
Commending Frances Caruso on the happy occasion of her 90th birthday, and her lifetime of dedicated volunteer service to her community.

RESULT: APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

5. #191725 Resolution By Ald. Gewirtz
That this Board requests that the Administration report back to this Board the feasibility of upgrading Kenny Park on Grove Street in the next round of capital improvements.

RESULT: APPROVED

6. #191726 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the bike rack at the Broken Yolk on College Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. #191727 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD publicize the schedule for the Davis Square infrastructure improvement project and designate a staff person to coordinate with this Board, so that neighbors can be involved and informed of its progress.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. #191728 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of Traffic and Parking confer with the Ward 6 Alderman to develop a traffic and parking improvement plan for the College Avenue area to alleviate the congestion experienced on Sundays.

RESULT: APPROVED

9. #191729 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works inspect the newly poured cement of the ADA ramp on College Avenue, by the Davis Square MBTA station, for ruts or bumps that could be dangerous to pedestrians.

RESULT: APPROVED

10. #191730 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works make a permanent repair to the pothole at 22 Park Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

11. #191731 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace or repair the trash bin on the corner of Holland and Wallace Streets.

RESULT: APPROVED

12. #191732 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inform business owners abutting Winter Street that trash must be placed on the street the day of pick up and not before.

RESULT: APPROVED

13. #191733 Order By Ald. Trane
That the Director of Communications update this Board regarding the July 7 phone outage that affected the Fire Dept. and explain what steps have been taken to ensure it will not happen again.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

14. #191734 Order By Ald. Trane
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalk at 14 Farragut Avenue.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

15. #191735 Resolution By Ald. Connolly, Trane
That this Board requests that the Dedication Commission consider naming the corner of Teele and Curtis Streets in memory of United States Army PFC James F. Donovan.

RESULT: APPROVED

16. #191736 Resolution By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That this Board requests that the General Manager of the MBTA correct the timing of the street lamps on the bus way from Grove Street to College Avenue, and number the lamps to make problems easier to identify.

RESULT: APPROVED

17. #191737 Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the loose bricks on the sidewalk opposite the crosswalk at College and Highland Avenues.

RESULT: APPROVED

18. #191738 By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the dead tree at 25 Warner Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

19. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. #191739 Report of the Committee on Finance, July 13, 2011.
Committee Report

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #189723 By Ald. Heuston
Order That the Director of Purchasing, the Director of Traffic and Parking and the City Solicitor Appear at the Next Meeting of the Finance Committee to Discuss the Kiosk Contracts.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #190146 By Ald. Desmond
Order That the Director of SPCD provide the Committee on Finance with a current copy of the amended MaxPak covenant.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #190649 Requesting approval to establish the position of Youth & Volunteer
Mayor's Request Coordinator.

RESULT: APPROVED

- E. #190700 By Ald. Connolly, and the Entire Board
Resolution That this Board requests that the Administration provide a mid-year report on the FY 2011 city budget, including an analysis of departmental spending, health insurance and overtime expenditures.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. #190744 By Ald. White Jr.
Order That the Director of Finance appear before the Committee on Finance with the meals tax receipts (adjusted for the increase in the rate) over the past five years and discuss their impact, especially on the state of the restaurant business in Somerville.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. #191011 Order
By Ald. Heuston
That the City Treasurer inform this Board of residents' complaints about the timeliness of their receipt of excise tax bills, and that if the responsibility for the bills' tardiness lies with the City, that the City make restitution to those residents facing fines because their excise tax bills were not received in a timely manner.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- H. #191601 Mayor's Request
Requesting approval of a \$9,000 grant from the Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation to support the Arts Council's Books of Hope program.

RESULT: APPROVED

- I. #191698 Mayor's Request
Requesting the acceptance of a \$100,000 grant from the MA Dept. of Public Health for the Health Dept.'s Tobacco Control Program.

RESULT: APPROVED

- J. #191740 Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD provide the Finance Committee with an update of the MaxPak project.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

20. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. #191741 Committee Report
Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, July 13, 2011.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #191514 License/Permit
New Hawker Peddler License, Bark 'N Bite, Food Vendor.

RESULT: APPROVED

- C. #191670 Order
By Ald. Heuston
That the City Clerk notify the following businesses to appear before this Board's Committee on Licenses and Permits for a Public Hearing regarding the terms and conditions of their licenses: USave Rental - 70 Prospect Street, Webster Auto Sales - 61 Prospect Street, and McDonald's - Twin City Plaza.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #191706 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Dewire Family Trust, 381-383 Washington St., 30 autos out, 22 in.

RESULT: APPROVED

- E. #191707 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Dewire Family Trust, 387 Washington St., 12 autos in.

RESULT: APPROVED

- F. #191708 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Dewire Family Trust, 139-147 Beacon St., 22 autos in.

RESULT: APPROVED

- G. #191709 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, International Auto Repair, 508 Somerville Ave., 8 autos out, 2 in.

RESULT: APPROVED

- H. #191711 License/Permit New Junk Dealer's License, Crescent Jewelers Inc., Operating at Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., buying used items.

RESULT: APPROVED

- I. #191742 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the City Clerk investigate whether mobile food vendors are prohibited from operating at specific locations, and if so, to provide a list of locations to the Committee on Licenses and Permits.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

21. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

- A. #191743 Committee Report Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, July 14, 2011.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #191054 Order By Ald. Heuston That the Director of Traffic and Parking and the Commissioner of Public Works place proper signage on the appropriate poles at the bus stop on Webster Avenue adjacent to St. Joseph's Church and the Charter School, and recommend to the Ward 2 Alderman other signage there to comply with city regulations and provide for public safety.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #191095 Officer's Communication Director of Traffic and Parking responding to various Board Orders.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- D. #191565 Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz That the Commissioner of Public Works re-stripe the intersection of Cutter Avenue and Summer Street, indicating a left turn only lane and a straight lane for Summer Street.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. #191673 Order By Ald. Gewirtz That the Director of Traffic and Parking report to this Board on the feasibility of a sticker or placard for non-commercial resident vehicles that a resident owner could obtain for legal street parking when they plan to be away from the city for more than 48 hours.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

22. #191744 Mayor's Request Requesting an amendment to the Local Historic District Map to create 4 new Districts (Winter Hill, Hinckley-Magoun, College Ave. Corridor of Faith, and Teele Sq.) and add 17 properties to these Districts, and to add 1 property to an existing District (East Somerville) (Group E).

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

23. Not used.

24. #191745 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the reconstruction and streetscape of Lower Broadway and authorization to borrow \$2,000,000 in a bond to meet said appropriation.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

25. #191746 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$80,000 for the purchase of new radio equipment and authorization to borrow \$80,000 in a bond to meet said appropriation.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

26. #191747 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$150,000 for roof repairs to the High School and authorization to borrow \$150,000 in a bond to meet said appropriation.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Roche, Heuston, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Thomas F. Taylor, Walter F. Pero

AMENDED: That it is specified that the High School roof repairs are for the replacement of the Field House and Atrium roofs.

27. #191748 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$100,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for various repairs to the High School.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Roche, Heuston, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Thomas F. Taylor, Walter F. Pero

28. #191749 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$50,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to renovate the High School weight room and training room.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Roche, Heuston, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Thomas F. Taylor, Walter F. Pero

29. #191750 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$40,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to renovate the High School Health Careers room.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Roche, Heuston, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Thomas F. Taylor, Walter F. Pero

30. #191751 Mayor's Request Requesting to transfer \$143.73 from the Executive Administration Printing and Stationery Acct. to the Executive Administration Salaries Acct. to eliminate a deficit in the FY2011 operating budget.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

31. #191752 Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$90.78 from the Information Technology Computer Supplies Acct. to the Information Technology Salaries Acct. to eliminate a deficit in the FY2011 operating budget.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

32. #191753 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a \$140,494 grant from FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters program, for the Fire Dept. to meet new FCC radio requirements.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

33. #191754 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Albert Darling as Constable.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

34. #191755 Officer's Communication Traffic and Parking Director responding to various Board Orders.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

35. #191756 Officer's Communication Traffic and Parking Director responding to various Board Orders.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

NEW BUSINESS

36. #191757 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Open Air Circus Performances, Nunziato Field, Aug 5-7.

RESULT: APPROVED

37. #191758 License/Permit Public Event Permit, StarLab Fest-Yard Sale, BBQ, and Live Music, 32 Prospect St parking lot, Aug 6, Noon-9PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

38. #191759 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Derby St. Block Party, lower Derby St., Aug 13, 10-8PM (raindate Aug 21).

RESULT: APPROVED

39. #191760 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Memphis Soul 5K BBQ Run, 248 Elm St. and area streets, Aug 28, 11AM.

RESULT: APPROVED

40. #191761 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Honk Festival, Davis Sq., Oct 1 10-9PM, Oct 2 12-1PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

41. #191762 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Chamber of Commerce Oktoberfest, Elm St. from Day to Grove Sts, Chester St. from Elm to Herbert Sts., Oct 2, Noon-6PM (raindate Oct 16).

RESULT: APPROVED

42. #191763 License/Permit Renewing Flammables License, Broadway Henry LLC, 38-44 Broadway, 6,256 gallons.

RESULT: APPROVED

43. #191764 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Broadway Henry LLC, 20 Broadway, 4 autos in, 6 out.

RESULT: APPROVED

44. #191765 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Somerville Auto Transport Service, 495 Columbia St., 12 autos in.

RESULT: APPROVED

45. #191766 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Mike's Automotive Services, 298 Somerville Ave., 10 autos in, 10 out.

RESULT: APPROVED

46. #191767 License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, A Plus Auto Body, 297 Medford St., 0 autos.

RESULT: APPROVED

47. #191768 License/Permit Sign/Awning Permit, Maria Ferry Salon, 1152 Broadway, 1 blade sign.

RESULT: APPROVED

48. #191769 License/Permit Sign/Awning Permit, Metro PCS, 87 Broadway, 1 awning.

RESULT: APPROVED

49. #191770 License/Permit Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Gardy Inc, Med #19.

RESULT: APPROVED

50. #191771 License/Permit Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Somerville Taxi, Med #66.

RESULT: APPROVED

51. #191772 License/Permit Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Love Cab, Med #92.

RESULT: APPROVED

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

52. #191773 Order By Ald. Connolly, O'Donovan That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the missing Richardson Street sign.

RESULT: APPROVED

53. #191774 Order By Ald. Trane That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalks at 32, 33, 33 and 41 Corinthian Road.

RESULT: APPROVED

54. #191775 Order By Ald. Trane That the Chief of Police order a directed patrol of Simpson Avenue at various times.

RESULT: APPROVED

55. #191776 License/Permit Public Event Permit, SomerStreets “Seize the Summer” event, Highland Ave. from Walnut to Cedar Sts., Jul 24, 10AM-6PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

56. #191777 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Prospect Hill Academy Canning Drive, Jul 28, 1-5PM, Aug 4, 2-6PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

57. #191778 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Sikh Sangat Society Free Drink Distribution, Union Sq., Jul 30, 8AM-8PM (raindate Aug 6).

RESULT: APPROVED

58. #191779 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Webster Auto Body, 64 Webster Ave., 25 autos in.

RESULT: APPROVED

59. #191780 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Webster Auto Body, 69 Webster Ave., 11 autos in.

RESULT: APPROVED

60. #191781 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Frongillo Realty, 0 Spring Hill Terrace, 19 autos in.

RESULT: APPROVED

61. #191782 License/Permit New Outdoor Seating License, Victor’s Meat and Deli, 710 Broadway, 3 tables, 9 seats.

RESULT: APPROVED

LATE ITEMS

62. #191783 Mayor’s Request Requesting approval of a \$11,500 grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts to support the Arts Council’s purchase of a Union Square public art.

RESULT: APPROVED

63. #191784 Mayor’s Request Requesting approval of a \$3,000 grant from the Housing Authority to support the Arts Council’s Mystic Mural project.

RESULT: APPROVED

64. #191785 Mayor's Request Requesting the approval of a ten year "Zero Sort" contract with Casella Recycling LLC.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

65. #191786 Mayor's Request Requesting extension of a Contract with Howard/Stein-Hudson Inc., to August 30, 2012, to complete the Union Sq. roadway/streetscape improvement design plan.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

66. #191787 Mayor's Request Requesting to amend the city's health insurance benefits by transferring to the Group Insurance Commission (GIC).

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

67. #191788 Mayor's Request Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition authorizing the increase of the number of liquor licenses that the Licensing Commission may issue.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

68. #191789 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Metro Mayors Shannon Grant Basketball Tournament, Trum Field, Aug 6, 8-3PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk