



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, June 27, 2024

7:00 PM

City Council Chamber and Remote
Participation

Published June 25, 2024, 12:15 PM, Revised June 27, 2024 12:15 PM.

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the City Council may be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audiovideo recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

Register at the following website to listen to this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WsxRynTiROyOp5v06Q9Njg

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1. OPENING CEREMONIES

- 1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # [24-0997](#))
- 1.2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # [24-0998](#))
- 1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May
(ID # [24-0999](#)) 23, 2024.

2. CITATIONS

- 2.1. Citation By Councilor Ewen-Campen
(ID # [24-0903](#)) Commending Arn Franzen on the occasion of his
retirement from the Public Space and Urban Forestry
Division after more than 20 years of distinguished
service.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 3.1. Grant of Location Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install 32 feet of conduit in Mount Pleasant Street, from Utility Pole 243/3 to a point of pickup at 24-28 Mount Pleasant Street.
(ID # [24-0993](#))

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Order By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0972](#)) That the Director of Mobility install speed humps on Moreland Street from Main Street to Mystic Avenue.
- 4.2. Order By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0973](#)) That the Director of Mobility install speed humps on Meacham Street from Edgar Avenue to Fremont Street.
- 4.3. Order By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0974](#)) That the Director of Mobility install additional signage to address illegal turns up Moreland Street to access East Albion Street from Mystic Avenue.
- 4.4. Order By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0975](#)) That the Director of Mobility install solar powered YOUR SPEED IS signs on Moreland Street between Main Street and Meacham Street.
- 4.5. Order By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0976](#)) That the Director of Mobility install new, more visible STOP signs at the intersections of Meacham and Moreland Streets and Meacham and Fremont Streets to address drivers failing to stop.
- 4.6. Order By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0977](#)) That the Commissioner of Public Works install big belly trash barrels at the intersection of Meacham and Moreland Streets.
- 4.7. Resolution By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0978](#)) Celebrating the Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, recognizing July as Disability Pride Month and the 26th of July as Americans with Disabilities Act Day.
- 4.8. Communication By Councilor Ewen-Campen
(ID # [24-0970](#)) In his capacity as President, cancelling this Council's Regular meetings scheduled for July 25 and August 8, 2024.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES****6.A. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 6.A.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0981](#)) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 25, 2024.
- 6.A.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0681](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$40,000 from the Kennedy Pool Electricity Account to the Kennedy Pool Salaries & Wages Temporary Account to increase employees for programs.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be placed on file.
- 6.A.3. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0697](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$385 using available funds in the Department of Racial and Social Justice Professional and Technical Services Account for transcription services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.4. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0698](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$250 using available funds in the Department of Racial and Social Justice Professional and Technical Services Account for translation/interpretation services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.5. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0719](#)) Requesting approval to accept a gift valued at \$18,000, from Boston's Office of Emergency Management to the Department of Public Works for a generator.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.6. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0767](#)) Requesting approval to settle a claim for \$7,182 pursuant to Section 2-124 of the Code of Ordinances.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.7. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0768](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$7,182 from the Unemployment Compensation account to the Law Department Judgments and Settlements account to settle a pending claim.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.8. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0772](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$60,067 grant with no new match required, from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to the Police Department for the traffic safety program.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.A.9. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0773](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$100,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development Mobility Division for traffic safety improvements at the Alewife Brook Parkway and Broadway intersection.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be placed on file.
- 6.A.10. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0774](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$75,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development Public Space and Urban Forestry Division for a multi-use trail at Blessing of the Bay park.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be placed on file.
- 6.A.11. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0775](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$3,000 grant with no new match required, from the Barr Foundation to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development Mobility Division for the National Association of City Transportation Officials Designing Cities 2024 Conference Registration.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.12. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0784](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$199.99 using available funds in the Police Department In Service Training account for public relations training for first responders.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.13. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0785](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$4,120 using available funds in the Police Department Professional and Technical account for random drug screening and breath alcohol testing.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.14. Officer's
Communication
(ID # [24-0798](#)) City Clerk submitting recommendations for adjustments to certain fees charged by the City Clerk's Office, effective July 1, 2024.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.15. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0852](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a non-monetary grant with no new match required, from the Department of Energy Resources to the Office of Sustainability and Environment for technical assistance for writing a municipal building decarbonization roadmap.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.A.16.Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0853](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$4,573.32 grant with no new match required, from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Public Works (DPW) for the Recycling Dividend Program.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.17.Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0856](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$78,148.40 from the Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM) -Engineering & Architecture Account to the Street Reconstruction Stabilization Fund for continuing street, sidewalk, and pavement condition assessment and design services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.18.Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0857](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$927,590.89 from the Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM)-Capital Projects Engineering & Architecture Account to the Facility Renovation Stabilization Fund for continuing building design services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.19.Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0858](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$74,160 from the Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM)-Capital Projects Professional & Technical Account to the Facility Renovation Stabilization Fund for continuing building design services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.20.Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0859](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,001,750.89 from the Facility Renovation Stabilization Fund for continuing building design services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.21.Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0860](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$78,148.40 from the Street Reconstruction Stabilization Fund for continuing street, sidewalk, and pavement condition assessment and design services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.22.Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0876](#)) Requesting authorization to borrow \$1,271,785 in a bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the purchase of Fire Pumper apparatus.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.A.23. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0896](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$750 using available funds in the Human Resources Advertising account for advertising costs of vacant positions.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.24. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0897](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$181.92 using available funds in the Human Resources Professional and Technical Services account for confidential paper shredding services.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.25. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0900](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$109,428 from the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) Planning, Preservation and Zoning Division Professional Services account to the OSPCD Administration Division Legal Services account to pay outstanding legal fees related to the 90 Washington Street litigation.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.26. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0905](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$3,847.47 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Buildings Natural Gas account for Edgerly School natural gas.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.27. Resolution
(ID # [24-0910](#)) By Councilor Clingan
That the Administration provide this Council with an up-to-date report on the financial activity of the Handicapped Parking Violation Fees fund.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.B. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE**
- 6.B.1. Committee Report
(ID # [24-0980](#)) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on June 24, 2024.
- 6.B.2. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0912](#)) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for use of an Unmanned Aerial System at the 2024 Somerville Police Department Junior Police Academy.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.B.3. Order
(ID # [24-1010](#))
- By Councilor Davis
That the Committee on Legislative Matters recommends that this Council approve a new submission of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for exterior cameras at fire stations that is consistent with the draft discussed in Committee on June 24, 2024.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.C. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- 6.C.1. Committee Report
(ID # [24-0982](#))
- Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on June 26, 2024.
- 6.C.2. License
(ID # [24-0793](#))
- New Flammables License, Building 2 Owner LLC, 808 Windsor Street, storing 3,549 gallons.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.D. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

- 6.D.1. Committee Report
(ID # [24-0979](#))
- Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on June 24, 2024.
- 6.D.2. Order
(ID # [24-0662](#))
- By Councilor Clingan
That the Director of Engineering assess the timing of the traffic light at Main Street and Broadway and consider lengthening the cycle time.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.D.3. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0701](#))
- Green Cab Company, Inc. requesting an increase in the taxicab meter rate to \$3.80 for the first 1/8 of a mile, \$0.50 for each additional 1/8 of a mile and \$32 per hour waiting time.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.D.4. Order
(ID # [24-0791](#))
- By Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Mobility begin a public process to determine how to manage traffic issues on Benton Road in light of the upcoming change of Central Street to a one-way from Summer Street to Highland Avenue.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.D.5. Order
(ID # [24-0901](#))
- By Councilor Clingan and Councilor Wilson
That the Director of Mobility daylight the corner of Maple Avenue and School Street.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

- 6.D.6. Order
(ID # [24-0922](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Parking place SLOW CHILDREN and NOT A THROUGH STREET signs on Alston Street by the corner of Cross Street.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.D.7. Order
(ID # [24-0925](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Parking discuss the policy around restricted parking signs during construction and how to limit negative impacts in the community.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0987](#)) Requesting approval of a Deed and Maintenance Agreement for Leonard Grimes Park at 31 Tufts Street.
- 7.2. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0971](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$40,662.50 from the Street Tree Stabilization Fund for the Tree Inventory Update project.
- 7.3. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0956](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend an \$8,500 grant with no new match required, from the Department of Fire Services to the Fire Department for the Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) Program.
- 7.4. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0957](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$2,900 grant with no new match required, from Department of Fire Services to the Fire Department for the Senior Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) Program.
- 7.5. Mayor's Request
(ID # [24-0988](#)) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for exterior cameras at fire stations.

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 8.1. Officer's
Communication
(ID # [24-0995](#)) City Clerk submitting an amendment to Section 13-6.1 of the Code of Ordinances to increase taxicab meter rates.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. License
(ID # [24-0955](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, K.B. Aruda Construction Inc.
- 9.2. License
(ID # [24-0994](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Vinny Mofford Excavation LLC.

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- 9.3. Public Event
(ID # [24-0992](#)) Somerville Museum applying for a Public Event License for Docent Openings for various dates between June 22 and October 31.
- 9.4. Public Event
(ID # [24-0991](#)) Mutual Aid Medford and Somerville applying for a Public Event License for MAMAS East Somerville neighborhood party on June 30 from 12pm to 6pm.
- 9.5. Public Event
(ID # [24-0958](#)) Department of Racial and Social Justice applying for a Public Event License for Disability Pride Flag Commemoration on July 11 from 4pm to 6:30pm (raindate July 24).
- 9.6. Public Event
(ID # [24-0990](#)) Portuguese-American Civic League applying for a Public Event License for Annual Holy Ghost Feast Procession on July 12 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.
- 9.7. Public Event
(ID # [24-0963](#)) Portuguese-American Civic League applying for a Public Event License for Annual Holy Ghost Feast on July 12 and July 13 from 6pm to 12am and on July 14 from 10am to 12am.
- 9.8. Public Event
(ID # [24-0989](#)) Dan Flynn applying for a Public Event License for Ivaloo/Harrison/Kent Streets BP on July 13 from 12pm to 5pm.
- 9.9. Public Event
(ID # [24-0996](#)) Melissa Kelly applying for a Public Event License for Alpine/Princeton Street BP on July 20 from 12pm to 8pm (raindate July 27).
- 9.10. Public Event
(ID # [24-0959](#)) Get to the Gig Boston applying for a Public Event License for NICE, a fest Vendor Market on July 26, July 27, and July 28 from 10am to 11pm.
- 9.11. Public Event
(ID # [24-0960](#)) Get To The Gig Boston applying for a Public Event License for NICE, a fest Vendor Market #2 on July 27 from 10am to 11pm (raindate July 28).
- 9.12. Public Event
(ID # [24-0961](#)) Macy Coffey applying for a Public Event License for Lowden Ave BP on July 27 from 12pm to 8:30pm (raindate July 28).
- 9.13. Public Event
(ID # [24-0962](#)) The Queer Theatre Project applying for a Public Event License for Shakesqueer in the Park! on August 24 and August 25 from 12pm to 8pm (raindate September 7 and September 8).

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- 9.14. Public Communication (ID # [24-0965](#)) Bridget Duffy and Naticia Hutchins submitting comments re: road safety grant.
- 9.15. Public Communication (ID # [24-0966](#)) Donald Cronin and Nathanael Clauser submitting comments re: Somerville Municipal Employees Association.
- 9.16. Public Communication (ID # [24-0967](#)) Felix Katzman submitting comments re: the Jewish community.
- 9.17. Public Communication (ID # [24-0968](#)) Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee submitting comments re: McGrath Boulevard.
- 10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**
- 10.1. Order (ID # [24-1004](#)) By Councilor Clingan
That the Director of Mobility change the intersection of Meacham and Fremont Streets to a 4 WAY STOP.
- 10.2. Order (ID # [24-1005](#)) By Councilor Clingan
That the ADA Coordinator provide this Council with an update on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan Task Force.
- 10.3. Order (ID # [24-1008](#)) By Councilor Pineda Neufeld
That the Director of Economic Development discuss with this Council ways to provide small businesses with financial and technical support when impacted by construction and other emergencies.
- 10.4. Resolution (ID # [24-1009](#)) By Councilor Wilson
That the Administration work with the vendor to review the certification and re-certification processes for affordable housing units and identify ways to streamline the process and make it less onerous for residents.
- 10.5. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-1007](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$103,190 from the FY 2025 Salary Contingency, Salaries Account to various Fire Alarm Personal Services Accounts to fund the Memorandum of Agreement between the City and Firefighters Association of Somerville, Local 76, Fire Alarm Unit.

- 10.6. Officer's Communication (ID # [24-1006](#)) Finance Director responding to item #24-0910, a Resolution requesting an up-to-date report on the financial activity of the Handicapped Parking Violation Fees fund.
- 10.7. Public Communication (ID # [24-1000](#)) Christopher Rosol submitting comments re: cyclist safety.
- 10.8. Public Communication (ID # [24-1001](#)) Derek DuPont and Samantha Caveny submitting comments re: road safety grant.
- 10.9. Public Communication (ID # [24-1002](#)) Michael Femia submitting comments re: police funding.
- 10.10. Public Communication (ID # [24-1003](#)) Jenn Harrington submitting comments re: city leadership.
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**