

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the City Council

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

June 25, 2020, 7:00 PM
Meeting by Remote Participation

NOTICE

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the City Council will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video 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.

Go to the following website and register to view this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/790341460459412747>.

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # 23214)

2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # 23215)

3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, May
(ID # 23216) 28, 2020.

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

4. Resolution By City Councilor Mbah
(ID # 23196) That this Council and the Administration work together to consider replacing the Bunker Hill Day (June 17) with Juneteenth (June 19), and consult with any collective bargaining units that have Bunker Hill Day as a holiday.

5. Order By City Councilor White Jr.
(ID # 23197) That fines for code violations assessed pursuant to MGL c148A for violations of the state building code and the state fire safety code shall be subject to collection as a municipal charges lien, pursuant to Chapter 252 of the Acts of 1996.

6. Order (ID # 23206) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the City Solicitor explain in writing prior to July 1, how Chapter 589 of the Acts of 1987, "An Act Relative to Dispute Resolution" may provide this Council with the ability to modify or reject components of collective bargaining agreements that reached an impasse and entered arbitration.
7. Order (ID # 23208) By City Councilor Niedergang
That this Council consider the joint recommendations of the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Pedestrian & Transit Advisory Committee with respect to a transportation response to COVID-19.
8. Order (ID # 23209) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Chief of Police report to this Council, no later than June 26, the patrol car deployment schedule, including the number of patrol cars deployed hourly on weekdays, weekends, and holidays.
9. Order (ID # 23210) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Chief of Police report to this Council, no later than June 26, the average number of calls for service in each hour of each day of the week as well as each hour on holidays.
10. Order (ID # 23211) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Chief of Police or the Director of Personnel report to this Council, no later than June 26, the number of retirements of Police Officers, and their ranks, from FY16-FY20.
11. Order (ID # 23212) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Chief of Police or the Director of Personnel report to this Council in writing, no later than June 18, the number and rank of all Police Officers, and the number and job title of all civilians, annually from 1987 to 2020. (2nd request)
12. Order (ID # 23213) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Chief of Police report to this Council, no later than June 18, a description of any military equipment purchased or received as a federal grant currently in the possession of the Police Department. (2nd request)
13. Communication (ID # 23207) By City Councilor Rossetti
Report of the High School Building Committee Meeting of June 15, 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 14. Resolution 209284 By City Councilor Scott Supporting House Resolution 702, The People's Justice Guarantee.

- 15. Grant of Location 210227 Submitted by Eversource to install 43 feet of conduit in Murdock Street, from utility pole 246/4 to a point of pickup at 32 Murdock Street.

- 16. Grant of Location 210225 Submitted by Eversource to install 64 feet of conduit in Heath Street, from utility pole 165/15 to a point of pickup at 128 Heath Street.

- 17. Grant of Location 210226 Submitted by Eversource to install 42 feet of conduit in Heath Street, from utility pole 165/15 to a point of pickup at 126 Heath Street.

- 18. Resolution 210236 By City Councilor Mbah, McLaughlin, Clingan, Strezo, Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Scott That this Council supports the Just Us Somerville organization of local residents of color and considers their demands regarding policing.

- 19. Resolution 210251 By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Mayor, the Chief of Police and the Director of Health and Human Services discuss with this Council, at its June 11, 2020 meeting, their declaration of Systemic Racism as a Public Safety and Health Emergency.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

20. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23205) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 16, 2020.

- B. Mayor's Request 210278 Requesting the approval of FY21 expenditure limitations for departmental Revolving Funds.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

21. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23204) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 18, 2020.

- B. Mayor's Request 210265 Requesting a transfer of \$500,000 from the Engineering Capital Outlay Street Repairs Account to the Street Reconstruction and Resurfacing Stabilization Fund to preserve funds for needed street repairs.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- C. Mayor's Request 210266 Requesting the appropriation of \$80,000 from the Snow Removal Account to the Sanitation Recycling Account to fund the May/June recycling invoice.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- D. Mayor's Request 210267 Requesting approval of a transfer of \$40,000 from the DPW Snow Removal Account to the Sanitation Rubbish Removal Account to fund the June Waste Management rubbish removal invoice.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- E. Mayor's Request 210268 Requesting a transfer of \$3,900 from various City Clerk's Office Accounts to the Clerk of Committees Salaries Monthly Account to fund an FY20 deficit.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- F. Mayor's Request 210269 Requesting a transfer of \$1,000 from the Economic Development Personal Services Account to the Redevelopment Authority Personal Services Account to cover a year-end deficit.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- G. Mayor's Request 210270 Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$31,291.50 using available funds in the DPW's Lights and Lines Account.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- H. Mayor's Request 210271 Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$10,975.06 using available funds in various DPW General Fund Accounts.
RECOMMENDED: Discharged w/no Recommendation
- I. Mayor's Request 210277 Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension for the street resurfacing contract with D&R General Contracting Inc.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- J. Mayor's Request 210298 Requesting the repurposing of \$300,000 in CPA funds awarded to the City's Public Space and Urban Forestry Division for the rehabilitation of the Central Hill Campus.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- K. Mayor's Request 210299 Requesting the appropriation of \$206,080 from the CPA Fund Open Space/Recreational Land Reserve to the Public Space/Urban Forestry Division for the rehabilitation of the Central Hill Playground.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- L. Mayor's Request 210300 Requesting approval to extend the contract for the Somerville Museum's FY16 CPA grant for an additional three years.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

- M. Mayor's Request 210301 Requesting the appropriation of \$91,324 from the Salary Contingency Salaries Account to the Fire Alarm Personal Services Account to fund the FY20 Agreement with the Firefighters Local 76 Fire Alarm Unit.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- N. Order (ID # 23198) By City Councilor White Jr.
That the Director of Finance address the Finance Committee on the status of the Central Hill bond appropriation, and whether it should be reduced by \$206,000 as a result of applying CPA funds to the project.

22. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23201) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 22, 2020.

23. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23200) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 23, 2020.
- B. Officer's Communication 210216 Director of Water and Sewer submitting proposed water and sewer volumetric rates for FY21.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- C. Mayor's Request 210295 Requesting an appropriation of \$26,004,509 to fund the FY21 Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- D. Mayor's Request 210296 Requesting the appropriation of \$15,914,535 to fund the FY21 Water Enterprise Fund Budget.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- E. Mayor's Request 210297 Requesting the appropriation of \$699,725 from the Water Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings Account to subsidize the FY21 Water Enterprise Fund Budget.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

24. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23199) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on June 24, 2020.

25. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23203) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on June 18, 2020.

- B. Order 210003 By City Councilor McLaughlin, Clingan, Davis, Ballantyne, Niedergang, Scott, White Jr., Ewen-Campen, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah
That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance formally recognizing domestic partnerships.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Ordinance 210195 City Solicitor submitting an amendment to the Municipal Ordinances to provide for the appointment of the Clerk and Assistant Clerks of Committees by this Council.
RECOMMENDED: Approved as Amended.

26. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23202) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on June 22, 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 27. Mayor's Request (ID # 23101) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of April Kuehnhoff to the position of Trustee for the Board of Library Trustees.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

NEW BUSINESS

- 28. License/Permit (ID # 23223) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Atlantic Excavation and Utility.
- 29. License/Permit (ID # 23224) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Insite Contracting.
- 30. License/Permit (ID # 23219) Renewing Garage License, GE Auto Repair, 631 Somerville Ave.
- 31. License/Permit (ID # 23220) Renewing Garage License, K Professional Auto Detailing, 682 Mystic Ave.
- 32. License/Permit (ID # 23221) Renewing Garage License, Real Auto Shop, 463 McGrath Hwy.
- 33. License/Permit (ID # 23222) Renewing Garage License, Teddy's Foreign Motors, 68 Joy St.
- 34. License/Permit (ID # 23225) Renewing Extended Operating Hours License, Pepi's Pizzeria, 516B Medford St.

- 35. Public Communication (ID # 23218) US Postal Service Manager of Governmental Relations responding to #210182 re: Postal Service operations during the pandemic.
- 36. Withdrawn (ID # 23217) Withdrawn.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 37. Resolution (ID # 23227) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Mayor move the Rodent Home Assistance Program from the Department of Inspectional Services to the Department of Health and Human Services to streamline rodent assistance for neighbors.
- 38. Resolution (ID # 23228) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Administration remove the 911 system from the Police Department and place it under civilian control to separate criminal complaints from mental health emergencies, substance abuse emergencies, housing emergencies and other nonviolent offenses.
- 39. Mayor's Request (ID # 23226) Requesting acceptance of a \$209,000 grant with no new match required, from the Commonwealth Children's Fund to the Health and Human Services Department's SomerPromise Account for the continuation and expansion of the SomerBaby program.
- 40. Officer's Communication (ID # 23232) Assistant City Solicitor submitting an Ordinance to recognize Domestic Partnerships, as recommended by the Legislative Matters Committee on 6/18/20.
- 41. Officer's Communication (ID # 23190) Assistant City Solicitor submitting an amendment to Ordinances 2-24 and 2-141 regarding the appointment of Clerks Of Committees by the City Council, as recommended by the Legislative Matters Committee on 6/18/20.
- 42. License/Permit (ID # 23231) New Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Four Wheels Auto, 83 Albion St, 0 autos inside, 0 outside, Mo-Fr 8am-6pm, Sa-Su by appointment.
- 43. Public Communication (ID # 23230) 15 registered voters requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning map to re-zone six parcels along Medford Street between School Street and Marshall Street.
- 44. Public Communication (ID # 23233) 172 citizens (approx.) submitting comments re: the FY21 budget.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT