

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the City Council'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 CEREMONIES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Wilfred N. Mbah	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Kristen Strezo	City Councilor at Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One City Councilor	Present	
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Ward Two City Councilor	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Ward Three City Councilor	Present	
Jesse Clingan	Ward Four City Councilor	Present	
Mark Niedergang	Ward Five City Councilor	Present	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six City Councilor	Present	
Katjana Ballantyne	Ward Seven City Councilor	Present	

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
 210327
 (ID:23214) **RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**

2. Remembrances Remembrances.
 210328
 (ID:23215) Councilor Ballantyne sponsored a moment of silence for 30 residents who have died from Covid-19. Councilor Clingan sponsored a moment of silence for John Marks and Aubri Esters. Councilor White sponsored a moment of silence for Marjorie Tomeo. Councilor McLaughlin sponsored a moment of silence for Richard LeBlanc.
RESULT: APPROVED

3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, May 28, 2020.
 210329
 (ID:23216) **RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4. Resolution 210330 (ID:23196) By City Councilor Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, White Jr. 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.

Councilor Mbah said that Juneteenth (June 19) is a very important holiday that represents the end of slavery, and has been celebrated for over 150 years. Councilor Davis supported the Resolution. Councilor McLaughlin commented that rather than replace Bunker Hill Day we should celebrate all holidays that recognize the diverse history of our country.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

- 5. Order 210331 (ID:23197) By City Councilor White Jr., Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah 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.

Councilor White noted that Chapter 252 of the Acts of 1996 allows the City to place liens on real estate for unpaid fines, but violations of the state building and fire codes are not currently included. Instead, the City must go to district court to collect these unpaid fines. He would like the City to be able to assess liens.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

- 6. Order 210332 (ID:23206) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Clingan, Rossetti, Scott, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr. 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.

Councilor Ewen-Campen said a Boston Global editorial noted that the Council can reject or modify arbitration awards issued when union contract negotiations fail. He would like to learn more about this authority. Councilor Scott expressed how important this could be for the City.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7. Order 210333 (ID:23208) By City Councilor Niedergang, Clingan, Ballantyne, Mbah, Strezo 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.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

8. Order 210334 (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.

Councilor Niedergang noted that items 8 through 12 are requests for information from the Police Department, and he has recently heard that they are working to provide that information.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

9. Order 210335 (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.

Councilor Niedergang requested to waive the readings of items 9 to 12 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

10. Order 210336 (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.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

11. Order 210337 (ID:23212) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Chief of Police or the Director of Personnel report to this Council, 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)

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

12. Order 210338 (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)

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

13. Communication 210339 (ID:23207) By City Councilor Rossetti
Report of the High School Building Committee Meeting of June 15, 2020.

Councilor Rossetti reported a shortage of tradesmen working on the High School, because there is a lot of construction taking place statewide. The project completion timeline is currently unknown, and they discussed continuing the rental of the modular classrooms (at \$20,000/month). The Contingency Account has just \$123,145.38 left. She sent a letter to the Governor requesting additional funding for the School Building Assistance Authority due to unforeseen Covid-19 expenses, and hoped other School Districts would join in.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. Resolution 209284 (ID:22154) By City Councilor Scott, Ballantyne, Clingan, Davis
Supporting House Resolution 702, The People's Justice Guarantee.

Councilor Scott noted that House Resolution 702 is related to many of the policing issues discussed tonight. It urges eliminating qualified immunity, eliminating militarization, creating non-violent first responder networks, and creating civilian review boards. He encouraged Councilors to read the House Resolution and join him in drafting this resolution.

RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE
FOLLOWUP: City Council

15. Grant of Location 210227 (ID:23089) 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.

Councilor White requested to waive the readings of items 15 to 17 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

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| <p>16. Grant of Location 210225 (ID:23090)</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>17. Grant of Location 210226 (ID:23091)</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>18. Resolution 210236 (ID:23137)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Mbah, McLaughlin, Clingan, Strezio, Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Scott, Davis, White Jr., Niedergang, Rossetti
 That this Council supports the Just Us Somerville organization of local residents of color and considers their demands regarding policing.</p> |
| <p>Councilor McLaughlin noted while the demands of Just Us Somerville have not yet been made public, he supported the group's efforts.
 RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>19. Resolution 210251 (ID:23145)</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Councilor McLaughlin said the Mayor was unable to attend tonight's meeting but will be present at the next Council meeting.
 RESULT: LAI D ON THE TABLE
 FOLLOWUP: City Council</p> | |

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

20. FINANCE COMMITTEE

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| <p>A. Committee Report 210340 (ID:23205)</p> | <p>Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 16, 2020.</p> |
| <p>Councilor Scott said the Committee discussed the need for a 1/12 budget, to give it more time to review the FY21 budget submission. The Committee received training in the OpenGov budget platform, and discussed water & sewer funding.
 RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |

- B. Mayor's Request 210278 (ID:23107) Requesting the approval of FY21 expenditure limitations for departmental Revolving Funds.
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| RESULT: | APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] |
| AYES: | Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
| FOLLOWUP: | Finance Committee |

21. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 210341 (ID:23204) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 18, 2020.
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| Councilor Scott noted the Committee discussed and recommended many items for approval, including transfers and contract extensions. | |
| RESULT: | APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] |
| AYES: | Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
- B. Mayor's Request 210265 (ID:23105) 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.
- | | |
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| RESULT: | APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] |
| AYES: | Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
- C. Mayor's Request 210266 (ID:23108) Requesting the appropriation of \$80,000 from the Snow Removal Account to the Sanitation Recycling Account to fund the May/June recycling invoice.
- | | |
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| RESULT: | APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] |
| AYES: | Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
- D. Mayor's Request 210267 (ID:23112) 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.
- | | |
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| RESULT: | APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] |
| AYES: | Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
- E. Mayor's Request 210268 (ID:23103) 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.
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| RESULT: | APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] |
| AYES: | Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |

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| <p>F. Mayor's Request 210269 (ID:23110)</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>G. Mayor's Request 210270 (ID:22896)</p> | <p>Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$31,291.50 using available funds in the DPW's Lights and Lines Account.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>H. Mayor's Request 210271 (ID:22895)</p> | <p>Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$10,975.06 using available funds in various DPW General Fund Accounts.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>I. Mayor's Request 210277 (ID:22888)</p> | <p>Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension for the street resurfacing contract with D&R General Contracting Inc.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>J. Mayor's Request 210298 (ID:23168)</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |
| <p>K. Mayor's Request 210299 (ID:23169)</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> | |

L. Mayor's Request 210300 (ID:23167) Requesting approval to extend the contract for the Somerville Museum's FY16 CPA grant for an additional three years.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

M. Mayor's Request 210301 (ID:23127) 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.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

N. Order 210342 (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.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

22. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. Committee Report 210343 (ID:23201) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 22, 2020.

Councilor Scott said the Committee discussed the FY21 budget's projected revenues and reviewed the proposed expenditures in several departments with the departments' heads during the 5-hour meeting. He noted that so far the Administration hasn't submitted any budget modifications.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

23. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. Committee Report 210344 (ID:23200) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on June 23, 2020.

Councilor Scott said the Committee reviewed the School Department budget and received the State Guidance Plan. The Committee also reviewed infrastructure and asset management, and approved FY21 funding for the Water and Sewer Department. He said the rates would increase 7.5% for water and 2.5% for sewer.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

B. Officer's Director of Water and Sewer submitting proposed water and sewer volumetric
Communication rates for FY21.

210216
(ID:23072)

RESULT: **APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott,
Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

C. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$26,004,509 to fund the FY21 Sewer
Enterprise Fund Budget.

210295
(ID:23160)

RESULT: **APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott,
Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

D. Mayor's Request Requesting the appropriation of \$15,914,535 to fund the FY21 Water
Enterprise Fund Budget.

210296
(ID:23159)

RESULT: **APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott,
Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

E. Mayor's Request Requesting the appropriation of \$699,725 from the Water Enterprise Fund
Retained Earnings Account to subsidize the FY21 Water Enterprise Fund
Budget.

210297
(ID:23158)

RESULT: **APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott,
Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

24. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on
June 24, 2020.

210345
(ID:23199)

Councilor Scott said that the FY21 budget public hearing drew 151 members of the public who offered testimony. They commented on the Police Department budget, housing stability, schooling, transportation and many other topics. 138 public speakers requested defunding the Police Department while 3 opposed that defunding.

RESULT: **APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott,
Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

25. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

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| <p>A. Committee Report
210346
(ID:23203)</p> | <p>Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on June 18, 2020.</p> <p>Councilor Davis said the Committee discussed Police Department reforms, a Civilian Review Commission and an ordinance to address racial profiling. He said the Administration would hire a consultant to work with the community to create a Civilian Review Commission. The Committee also discussed pollution mitigation in new construction, and approved the Domestic Partnership Ordinance after removing the address requirement.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| <p>B. Order
210003
(ID:22877)</p> | <p>By City Councilor McLaughlin, Clingan, Davis, Ballantyne, Niedergang, Scott, White Jr., Ewen-Campen, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah, Strezo</p> <p>That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance formally recognizing domestic partnerships.</p> <p>For ordainment of this item see #210361.</p> <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> |
| <p>C. Ordinance
210195
(ID:23034)</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>For ordainment of this item see #210362.</p> <p>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</p> |

26. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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| <p>A. Committee Report
210347
(ID:23202)</p> | <p>Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on June 22, 2020.</p> <p>Councilor Davis said the Committee heard a Covid-19 data update and encouraged the public to review the report online.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
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COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

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| <p>27. Mayor's Request
210348
(ID:23101)</p> | <p>Requesting confirmation of the appointment of April Kuehnhoff to the position of Trustee for the Board of Library Trustees.</p> <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee</p> |
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COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

NEW BUSINESS

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| 28. License/Permit
210349
(ID:23223) | Renewing Drainlayer's License, Atlantic Excavation and Utility. | <p>Councilor White requested to waive the readings of items 28 to 34 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| 29. License/Permit
210350
(ID:23224) | Renewing Drainlayer's License, Insite Contracting. | <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| 30. License/Permit
210351
(ID:23219) | Renewing Garage License, GE Auto Repair, 631 Somerville Ave. | <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| 31. License/Permit
210352
(ID:23220) | Renewing Garage License, K Professional Auto Detailing, 682 Mystic Ave. | <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| 32. License/Permit
210353
(ID:23221) | Renewing Garage License, Real Auto Shop, 463 McGrath Hwy. | <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| 33. License/Permit
210354
(ID:23222) | Renewing Garage License, Teddy's Foreign Motors, 68 Joy St. | <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| 34. License/Permit
210355
(ID:23225) | Renewing Extended Operating Hours License, Pepi's Pizzeria, 516B Medford St. | <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |

35. Public Communication re: Postal Service operations during the pandemic.
210356
(ID:23218)

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

36. Withdrawn
210357
(ID:23217)

RESULT: WITHDRAWN

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

37. Resolution
210358
(ID:23227)

By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, Mbah, White Jr.
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.

Councilor McLaughlin noted that the City hired a Rodent Control Officer, but baiting funds were never fully spent. He said ISD isn't skilled in rodent control and it should move to the Health and Human Services Department.
RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

38. Resolution
210359
(ID:23228)

By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, Mbah, White Jr.
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.

Councilor McLaughlin said many residents refuse to call 911 because a Police Officer is not needed for their emergency. He proposed putting the 911 system under civilian control, with non-Police response options. Councilors Ewen-Campen, Clingan and Strezo supported the request.
RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

39. Mayor's Request 210360 (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.

Councilor McLaughlin urged approval of this grant, and noted that Health and Human Services Director Doug Kress wasn't present to answer questions. Councilor Strezo asked if SomerBaby funding was at risk, and Mayor's Aide Annie Connor said she would report back. Councilor Ewen-Campen supported accepting the grant, and Councilor Strezo agreed. The Administration reported that the City had enough funds to continue the program until the end of July if the grant was not accepted. Councilor Scott commented that many important programs depend on grants and the City should include them in the municipal budget.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

40. Officer's Communication 210361 (ID:23232) Assistant City Solicitor submitting an Ordinance to recognize Domestic Partnerships, as recommended by the Legislative Matters Committee on 6/18/20.

Councilor Davis reviewed this Ordinance, and proposed several amendments to broaden Domestic Partnerships to more than two persons. He said government shouldn't be defining what a family is, and in fact has done a poor job of it in the past. Councilor Scott urged that the Ordinance be voted on tonight. Councilor McLaughlin expressed concern about voting on the item when the amendments were not "on paper." Following Ordainment of the item, Reconsideration was moved, and Reconsideration failed on a unanimous roll call vote.

RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
AMENDED:

- In Section 6-89 Subsection C change "two persons" to "people";
- In Section 6-89 Subsection C delete Paragraph 5;
- In Section 6-89 Subsection E change "she or he" to "they";
- In Section 6-90 Subsection A change "both" to "all";
- In Section 6-90 Subsection B Paragraph 2 change "other domestic partner" to "other domestic partners"; and
- In Section 6-90 Subsection B Paragraph 2 change both occurrences of "his or her" to "their".

41. Officer's Communication 210362 (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.

For discussion of this item see #210195.
RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

42. License/Permit 210363 (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.

Councilor White requested to waive the reading of item 42 and refer it to the Licenses and Permits Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

43. Public Communication 210364 (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.

Councilor White requested to waive the reading of item 43 and refer it to the Land Use Committee and the Planning Board. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

44. Public Communication 210365 (ID:23233) 172 citizens (approx.) submitting comments re: the FY21 budget.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

LATE ITEMS

45. Order 210366 (ID:23234) By City Councilor Ballantyne, Davis, Clingan That the Police Department post its weekly crime log on social media every week.

Councilor Ballantyne requested posting the Police Department's weekly crime log for the public's review. Councilor Clingan asked what would be included, and Councilor Ballantyne responded she was unsure.
RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

46. Mayor's Request 210319 (ID:23191) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,500,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Salary and Wage Stabilization Fund.

Discharged from the Committee on Finance.
RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

47. License/Permit 210098 (ID:22929) Renewing Garage License, Master Used Cars, 121 Prospect St.

Discharged from the Committee on Licenses and Permits. Councilor Scott said this business has had several issues addressed by the Council, but the license should no longer be held in Committee because it impairs the business' ability to function.
RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

48. License/Permit 209973 (ID:22787) New Extended Hours License, Dunkin Donuts, 282 Somerville Avenue, for 24/7 operation for in-store and take-out service only.

Discharged from the Committee on Licenses and Permits. Councilor Scott said multiple violations have been resolved and he recommend approval.
RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 9:20 PM.