

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

February 14, 2013, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.

2. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting, January 7, 2013, and the Regular Meeting, January 10, 2013.

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Grant of Location Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to install 41 feet of conduit in Broadway, from a manhole to 1323 Broadway.

4. Grant of Location Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to install 9 feet of conduit in Porter St., from a pole to 23 Porter St.

5. Grant of Location Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to install 7 feet of conduit in Linden Ave., from a pole to 16 Linden Ave.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

6. Order By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi

 That the Chief of Police monitor the pedestrian signals at Lombardi Way, Broadway and Mt. Vernon Street to ensure that motorists are stopping for pedestrians in the crosswalks and to ticket violators accordingly.

7. Order By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi

 That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect all residential and business sidewalks around all public schools and senior buildings to make sure all sidewalks have been shoveled, and to ticket accordingly.

8. Order By Ald. Gewirtz

 That the Chief of Police advise this Board whether crossing guards can be placed at all crosswalks near schools throughout the city.

9. Resolution By Ald. Gewirtz
That this Board requests that municipal lots remain open to resident parking until the snow melts more substantially and street parking becomes available.
10. Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance preventing the construction of occupancy dwellings attached to existing structures in RA and RB Zones without a Special Permit and neighborhood involvement.
11. Resolution By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Cuff-Bastardi, Taylor, Sullivan, Lafuente, Heuston, Trane, White Jr., O'Donovan, and the Mayor
That this Board requests that the Mayor consider implementing a Community Emergency Response Team, a volunteer citizen support group which is part of FEMA, to assist response efforts during emergencies.
12. Resolution By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Cuff-Bastardi, Taylor, Sullivan, Lafuente, Heuston, Trane, White Jr., O'Donovan, and the Mayor
That this Board, with the Mayor, requests that the City of Peabody increase public safety in the area of Saint Adelaide's Church, following the tragic accidental death of a Somerville resident there.
13. Order By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board discharges #190456, the Inspectional Services Division organizational review, from the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Public Health and Safety (leaving it solely in the Committee on Public Utilities and Works).
14. Communication By Ald. White Jr.
Acting as President, submitting an updated set of Committee assignments.
15. Communication By Ald. White Jr.
Acting as President, requesting that any member of a Committee of this Board who cannot attend a meeting of that Committee, to inform the Committee Chair and the Clerk of Committees of their absence with as much notice as possible.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

16. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on February 12, 2013.
- B. Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$1,500 from the Constituent Services Stationery Account to the Constituent Services Salaries and Wages Temporary Account.
- C. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$10,000 for Preventive Policing Analytics from The Bureau of Justice Assistance.
- D. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$7,625 from the MA Office of Public Safety and Security for the Fire Dept.'s Student Awareness of Fire Education program.
- E. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of an Urban Areas Security Initiative Grant of \$2,332.27 from the Boston Office of Emergency Preparedness for radio installation in the Fire Dept.

17. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Information Technology, meeting on January 31, 2013.
- B. Officer's Communication Communications Director responding to #191733 re: a July 7 phone outage in the Fire Dept.
- C. Resolution By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That this Board requests that the Administration consider expanding WI-FI capabilities at all city parks and public areas.
- D. Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of Constituent Services provide the history and dates of resolution of calls to 311 for trees and fallen branches on Rossmore Street.

18. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on February 5, 2013.

19. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on February 6, 2013.

- B. License/Permit New Livery License, Sharma Limousine Services, 17 Lake St., 1 auto.
- C. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, PJ's Auto Sales, 161 Broadway.
- D. License/Permit New Garage License, PJ's Auto Sales, 161 Broadway, 67 autos inside, 4 outside.

20. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on February 6, 2013.
- B. Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss the impact of the use of brick cross walks, their impact on the handicapped community, the measures in place to ensure that such cross walks comply with all state regulations and whether such cross walks should be used in future road work.
- C. Order By Ald. Heuston, Taylor
That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Health update this Board on the public awareness campaign to address rodent control, and describe specific problem areas and plans to address rodent control in those areas.
- D. Order By Ald. Connolly
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) and the Director of Health advise this Board of the number, location and status of all abandoned properties reported within the past two years.
- E. Order By Ald. Roche, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Chief of Police and the Director of SPCD (ISD) respond to the attached list of problem addresses and be prepared to provide an update at this Board's October 24 Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting.
- F. Order By Ald. Roche
That the Director of Health and the 3-member Board of Health Commission report back to this Board regarding their plan/policy to control the rodent problem.

- G. Order By Ald. Trane
That the Chief of Police increase enforcement of bicycle regulations in the city's business districts.
- H. Order By Ald. White Jr., Roche
That the City Solicitor, Superintendent of Inspectional Services, and Director of Public Health contact communities in the Greater Boston area such as Boston, Lynn, Saugus, Chelsea, Malden and Everett, to investigate any changes they have made to their ordinances or regulations to address rodent problems.
- I. Order By Ald. Trane
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) appear before the Committee on Public Health and Safety to review trash disposal issues at Clarendon Hill Towers and provide answers to neighbors' concerns.
- J. Order By Ald. Desmond, O'Donovan, Connolly
That the Chief of Police inspect the graffiti on the Lowell Street bridge and its retaining wall adjacent to the railroad tracks, to ascertain whether or not it is gang related.
- K. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Chief of Police enforce the STOP sign between Highland Road and Boston Avenue.
- L. Order By Ald. Desmond, Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Chief of Police order directed patrols to the Armory after 8 PM on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings and have those patrols ready to record noise levels from homes directly abutting it.
- M. Order By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi, Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr., and the Entire Board
That the Chief of Police and City Solicitor appear before this Board's Public Health and Safety Committee to discuss the December 27, 2012 incident at the Holiday Inn and to make any recommendations to prevent another occurrence.
- N. Order By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi
That the Manager of The Home Depot and the Chief of Police appear at the next meeting of this Board's Public Health and Safety Committee to discuss eliminating illegal activity in The Home Depot parking lot.

- O. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
- That the Chief of Police order directed patrols on Woodbine Street at Lowell Street, to prevent trucks from stopping and/or parking, and that the Chief of Police appear at the next meeting of this Board's Committee on Public Health and Safety to discuss this matter.

21. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works, meeting on January 29, 2013.
- B. Order By Ald. Gewirtz, O'Donovan
- That the Public Utilities and Public Works Committee discuss the damage done to the roof of 140 Willow Avenue by the utility companies working there.
- C. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
- That the Commissioner of Public Works appear before this Board's Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works regarding the lack of handicap ramps at the intersection of Highland Road and Kidder Avenue.
- D. Order By Ald. Connolly
- That the Director of Communications appear at the next meeting of the Public Works and Utilities Committee with an update and cost of the cable, internet and telephone providers in Somerville.
- E. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
- That the Commissioner of Public Works and the City Engineer appear at the September 19, 2012 meeting of the Public Utilities and Works Committee to report on the failure of the utility companies to re-surface streets after opening them.
- F. Order By Ald. Desmond, O'Donovan, Connolly
- That the Commissioner of Public Works remove the graffiti from the Lowell Street bridge.
- G. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
- That the Commissioner of Public Works repair all sidewalk panels at 27 Josephine Avenue.
- H. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
- That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of SPCD construct handicap crosswalks and ramps at Highland Road and Kidder Avenue.

- I. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Director of SPCD and the City Arborist analyze the safety of the large tree across from the Kennedy School and report back in writing to the Ward 5 Alderman.
- J. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Commissioner of Public Works erect a barrier or fence at the bottom of Nashua Street that can withstand the force of snow plows pushing snow into it.
- K. Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Commissioner of Public Works address the storm drain and runoff issues at the bottom of Nashua Street.
- L. Order By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Board's Committee on Public Utilities and Works on the repair/replacement of street-lamps city-wide.
- M. Order By Ald. Connolly
That the Director of SPCD (Transportation and Infrastructure) contact the MBTA and the State Delegation to eradicate all graffiti on the retaining wall between the railroad tracks and the Lowell Street bridge, and report any corrective actions to this Board's Committee on Public Utilities and Works.
- N. Order By Ald. Connolly
That the Director of SPCD (Transportation and Infrastructure) contact the MBTA and the State Delegation to remedy the problems with the fence at the end of Nashua Street, and report any suggested remedies from the MBTA to this Board's Committee on Public Utilities and Works within 30 days.

22. VETERANS AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Veterans and Public Services, meeting on January 29, 2013.
- B. Order By Ald. Sullivan
That the Director of Veterans Services present to the Committee on Veterans and Public Service recommendations on various designs for dedication signage.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 23. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,000,000 in a bond for the cost of engineering analyses of buildings needing Capital Improvements.
- 24. Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$554,403 from the Salary Contingency Account to referenced Dept. Personal Services Accounts to fund the FY2013 costs of the Memorandum of Agreement with SMEA Units A, B, and D.
- 25. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$24,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Office of Sustainability and Environment Professional Services Account to fund a Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Summit.
- 26. Mayor's Request Requesting an increase in the Council on Aging Revolving Fund Expenditure Cap for FY2013 of \$30,000.
- 27. Mayor's Request Requesting approval of a \$10,000 grant from the MA Cultural Council to support the Arts Council's ArtsUnion programming.
- 28. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$3,920 from the Somerville Health Foundation so the Council on Aging can provide a Fit 4 Life fitness and wellness program for LBT (Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Trans-gender) women-only clients.
- 29. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Michael Epstein to the Arts Council.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 30. Officer's Communication Planning Board submitting its recommendation on a zoning ordinance to allow one ground floor supermarket that exceeds the ground level retail size cap in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District.
- 31. Officer's Communication Director of Traffic and Parking responding to various Board Orders.

NEW BUSINESS

- 32. License/Permit Public Event Permit, Groundwork Somerville Maple Syrup Boil Down Festival, Community Growing Center, Mar 9, 8:30AM-3PM.
- 33. License/Permit Public Event Permit, Unity Church Palm Sunday Donkey Walk, College Avenue from Powderhouse Park to Davis Square, Mar 24, 8:30-9:45AM.

- 34. License/Permit Public Event Permit, Unity Church Easter Sunrise Service, Powderhouse Park, Mar 31, 6-7AM.
- 35. License/Permit Renewing Outdoor Seating License, PJ Ryans, 239 Holland St.
- 36. License/Permit Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Blue Shirt Cafe, 424 Highland Ave.
- 37. Public Communication Jobs for Somerville submitting a petition and comments re: #194060, a zoning amendment to permit a larger ground-floor supermarket at Assembly Square.
- 38. Public Communication Ellen Reisner submitting comments re: #194060, a zoning amendment to permit a larger ground-floor supermarket at Assembly Square.
- 39. Public Communication David Dahlbacka submitting comments re: #194060, a zoning amendment to permit a larger ground-floor supermarket at Assembly Square.
- 40. Public Communication Wig Zamore submitting comments re: #194060, a zoning amendment to permit a larger ground-floor supermarket at Assembly Square.
- 41. Public Communication Karen Molloy submitting comments re: #194060, a zoning amendment to permit a larger ground-floor supermarket at Assembly Square.
- 42. Public Communication Karen Molloy submitting comments re: #193288, a Resolution opposing the transport of ethanol by train through Somerville.
- 43. Public Communication Owner of 68 Holland Street submitting comments re: #193946, a Fortune Teller license issued at that address to Maryann Mitchell dba Astrology by Gia.
- 44. Public Communication MA DOT responding to #194058 re: Pedestrian lighting under Rt 93 at Sullivan Square.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 45. Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inform Burger King officials of the disregard for public safety by the store at 185 Somerville Avenue, which has not shoveled the periphery of their location more than 5 days after a major snow event.

46. Resolution By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board requests that the Traffic Commission review existing GO SLOW SCHOOL signals and other signage around schools, and add additional signals and signage as needed, to ensure that there is appropriate traffic signage and signals to protect students from speeding vehicles.
47. Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works examine the status of crosswalks around all schools and recommend any locations that should be slated for raised crosswalks.
48. Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Chief of Police implement speeding enforcement measures around schools during the morning and evening, to reduce speeding when children are going to or leaving school.
49. Mayor's Request Requesting that this Board declare the site of the former Powder House School available for disposition, with the restriction that any subsequent use provide for at least 40% publicly accessible open space, and that the Land Disposition Agreement be approved by this Board.
50. Mayor's Request Requesting that this Board vote to establish a value of \$5,711,600 for the former Powder House School.
51. Mayor's Request Requesting that this Board adopt a zoning ordinance amending Sections 2.2 and 7.11.9.2 to separate supermarkets from the general retail and department store use and define these types of stores.
52. Mayor's Request Requesting the Appointment of Wallace Forrest to the Position of District Fire Chief.
53. Mayor's Request Requesting the Appointment of Gerard Gover to the Position of Fire Captain.
54. License/Permit Transferring Taxi Medallion, Med. #59 from Ike Inc. to Raymy Inc.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk