

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 24, 2022, 7:00 PM
 City Council Chamber and 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
Willie Burnley Jr.	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Charlotte Kelly	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Jake Wilson	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Beatriz GomezMouakad	Ward Five City Councilor	Present	
Judy PinedaNeufeld	Ward Seven City Councilor	Present	
Kristen Strezo	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	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six City Councilor	Present	

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
 213334
 (ID:28359) **RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**

2. Remembrances Remembrances.
 213335
 (ID:28360) Councilors Pineda Neufeld, McLaughlin and Clingan offered a moment of silence for Kristen Daunheimer-Buckley.
RESULT: APPROVED

3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, February 24, 2022.
 213336
 (ID:28361) **RESULT: APPROVED**

CITATIONS

4. Citation 213337 (ID:28312) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin Commending Ann Cassesso, on the auspicious occasion of her retirement after 52 years of dedicated service to the City in the Somerville Public Libraries.

Councilor Ewen-Campen sponsored Library Director Cathy Piantigini who spoke about Ann Cassesso's dedication to the children of Somerville. President McLaughlin also praised Ms. Cassesso for her long service to the city.

RESULT: APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. Grant of Location 213338 (ID:28307) Submitted by Eversource to install 30 feet of conduit in Fountain Avenue, from Utility Pole 130/4 to a point of pickup at 22-24 Fountain Avenue.

Jacqueline Duffy, representing Eversource, spoke in favor of the item and explained the work involved. There being no opposition and no other speakers, the public hearing was closed.

RESULT: APPROVED

6. Grant of Location 213339 (ID:28308) Submitted by Eversource to install 19 feet of conduit in Day Street, from Manhole 12884 to a point of pickup at the rear of 278 Elm Street.

Jacqueline Duffy, representing Eversource, spoke in favor of the item and explained the work involved. There being no opposition and no other speakers, the public hearing was closed.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. Grant of Location 213340 (ID:28309) Submitted by Eversource to install 23 feet of conduit in the intersection of Somerville Avenue and Washington Street, from Manhole 8860 to a point of pickup at 71 Union Square.

Jacqueline Duffy, representing Eversource, spoke in favor of the item and explained the work involved. There being no opposition and no other speakers, the public hearing was closed.

RESULT: APPROVED

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

8. Order 213341 (ID:28313) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Wilson, Kelly, GomezMouakad That the Director of Inspectional Services report to this Council on the average time it takes for residents to have solar panels installed, identify the bottlenecks in this process, and discuss how this process can be streamlined and accelerated.

Councilor Ewen-Campen spoke about the delays being primarily caused by Eversource and the city and he thinks the process needs to be streamlined.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee

9. Order 213342 (ID:28314) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen That the appropriate departments work with this Council to draft an Ordinance regarding the commercial use of hazardous industrial materials in retrofitted older buildings.

Councilor Ewen-Campen would like to make sure that the process is being handled properly.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

10. Order 213343 (ID:28315) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Wilson, Kelly, Scott That the Director of Planning & Zoning update this Council on a proposed zoning amendment to "separate and define arts and creative workspace as an Arts and Creative Enterprise (ACE) use subcategory" as recommended in the Somerville Arts Space Risk Assessment.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

11. Order 213344 (ID:28321) By City Councilor GomezMouakad That the Commissioner of Public Works, the Director of Procurement and Contracting Services and the Director of Mobility provide this Council with the 90-day Implementation Report relative to the Ordinance to Safeguard Vulnerable Road Users.

Councilor Gomez Mouakad noted that a report was due this past January but has not yet been provided.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

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12. Order 213345 (ID:28322) By City Councilor GomezMouakad
That the Director of Planning & Zoning and the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment report on strategies to integrate and implement photovoltaics, weatherization, and electrification in Historic Properties.
- Councilor Gomez Mouakad would like the discussion to begin about retrofitting older buildings.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee
13. Resolution 213346 (ID:28320) By City Councilor GomezMouakad, Kelly, Wilson, Clingan
That the Administration report on how it is staffing and executing sections 9-37 through 9-41 of the Wage Theft Ordinance, relative to enforcement.
- Councilor Gomez Mouakad commented that she wants to make sure that the ordinance is working.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee
14. Resolution 213347 (ID:28324) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for the construction of the West Somerville Neighborhood School yard.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
15. Resolution 213348 (ID:28325) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a newcomer center.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
16. Resolution 213349 (ID:28330) By City Councilor Davis
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding to address sidewalk and crosswalk safety hazards in Davis Square.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

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17. Resolution 213350 (ID:28331) By City Councilor Davis
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a public process for a re-engineering of Elm Street, in Davis Square.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
18. Resolution 213351 (ID:28332) By City Councilor Davis
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a public process to create a four-season public market hall at the Day and Herbert Streets parking lot.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
19. Resolution 213352 (ID:28333) By City Councilor Davis
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a public process regarding the development of 45 College Avenue.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
20. Resolution 213353 (ID:28334) By City Councilor Davis
That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for new social workers and other mental health professionals to respond to mental health and substance use emergencies.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
21. Resolution 213354 (ID:28335) By City Councilor Davis
That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding to support community organizations providing housing, mental health, and substance abuse services.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

22. Resolution 213355 (ID:28336) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding to create at least two engagement centers to provide basic facilities and services for unhoused people.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

23. Resolution 213356 (ID:28337) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding to acquire and create new affordable housing.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

24. Resolution 213357 (ID:28338) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a fare-free bus pilot.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

25. Resolution 213358 (ID:28339) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for Parks and Recreation programs.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

26. Resolution 213359 (ID:28340) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for quick build and permanent improvements consistent with the Vision Zero Action Plan.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

27. Resolution 213360 (ID:28341) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for snow clearing along pedestrian routes to and from schools and squares.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

28. Resolution 213361 (ID:28342) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for additional inspector positions within the Inspectional Services Department.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

29. Resolution 213362 (ID:28343) By City Councilor Davis That the FY 2023 budget allocate additional funding to increase City Council committee support staffing.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

30. Communication 213363 (ID:28326) By City Councilor Davis Conveying a report on the March 21, 2022 meeting of the High School Building Committee.

Councilor Davis spoke about additional tunnels being discovered, noting that no additional asbestos has been found. The contingency fund is now in the black and is at just under \$6 million. Students are now back in the school and negotiating their way around the new facility. Work on the fields is estimated to be completed by July of 2023.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

31. Resolution 213364 (ID:28344) By City Councilor Kelly That the FY 2023 budget establish a multi-lingual Employment Connection Center.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

32. Resolution 213365 (ID:28345) By City Councilor Kelly
That the FY 2023 budget establish a fund to secure hotel rooms for unsheltered people in adverse and seasonally severe weather.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
33. Resolution 213366 (ID:28346) By City Councilor Kelly
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funds for transitional living community resources and expanded shelter access for unhoused people.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
34. Resolution 213367 (ID:28347) By City Councilor Kelly
That the FY 2023 budget allocate funds to build a public dashboard for staffing demographics.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
35. Resolution 213368 (ID:28348) By City Councilor Kelly
That the FY 2023 budget establish a mobile COVID-19 vaccine and testing clinic.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
36. Order 213369 (ID:28329) By City Councilor Wilson
That the Chief of Police enforce MGL c.90 sec. 6, prohibiting license plate covers on motor vehicles.
- Councilor Wilson noted that these covers are illegal in Massachusetts as they obscure the license plate.
RESULT: APPROVED

37. Order 213370 (ID:28327) By City Councilor Wilson, Kelly, PinedaNeufeld, Scott That the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development and the Somerville Arts Council update this Council on the Arts Space Needs Assessment and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) report.

Councilor Wilson commented that the art community in the city is in crisis.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations

38. Order 213371 (ID:28328) By City Councilor Wilson That the Director of Mobility update this Council on plans to install a contraflow bike lane on White Street.

Councilor Wilson believes that there is ample space to implement this.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

39. Resolution 213372 (ID:28349) By City Councilor Wilson That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a new site selection study for a Public Safety Building.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

40. Resolution 213373 (ID:28350) By City Councilor Wilson That the FY 2023 budget increase funding for permanent traffic calming measures.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

41. Resolution 213374 (ID:28351) By City Councilor Wilson That the FY 2023 budget increase funding for traffic calming signage.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

42. Resolution 213375 (ID:28352) By City Councilor Wilson That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a study of the condition of all Fire Department facilities.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

43. Communication 213376 (ID:28356) By City Councilor Wilson In his capacity as Chair of the Finance Committee, conveying the process for the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting on Wednesday, March 30, 2022 to determine consensus on FY 2023 budget priorities.

Councilor Wilson asked that all councilors come to the meeting prepared as the committee works to narrow down the list of the 175 budget resolutions that were submitted by councilors. Councilor Burnley asked if there is a contingency plan in the event that a consensus of items is not attained. Councilor Wilson sponsored Legislative and Policy Analyst Brendan Salisbury to comment on the process of selecting which items to move forward. Mr. Salisbury explained how the voting process will work and said that items will be grouped according to subject matter. He noted that all of the (175) resolutions would be moving through the regular process, i.e., to a final resolution.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

44. Public Communication 212916 (ID:27779) Broadway Somerville Apartments, LLC requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 383 Broadway from UR to MR5.

Councilor Ewen-Campen asked that the item be approved.

RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: BurnleyJr., Kelly, Wilson, GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Davis

45. Public Communication 213008 (ID:27903) Michael E. Olson requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 125 Lowell Street from NR to UR.

Councilor Ewen-Campen asked that the item be approved.

RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: BurnleyJr., Kelly, Wilson, GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Davis

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| 46. | Grant of Location
213242
(ID:28280) | Submitted by Eversource to install a total of 324 feet of conduit in Hawkins Street at the intersection of Somerville Avenue and Hawkins Street. |
| | | <p>Councilor Scott reported that there was a follow-up on this item and all concerns have been resolved.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

47. EQUITY, GENDER, FAMILIES AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS COMMITTEE

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| A. | Committee Report
213377
(ID:28318) | Report of the Committee on Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations, meeting on March 15, 2022. |
| | | <p>Councilor Gomez Mouakad presented the committee report and discussed the actions taken by the committee. Councilor Strezo moved to substitute item #69 (28306) for item 213250. Asked to speak on the item by Councilor Davis, Councilor Strezo stated that this is about deceptive advertising practices and the distribution of misinformation. It would ensure that people are allowed to make medical decisions with dignity. She stated that the Roe Act is passed in Massachusetts but is not protected by the state constitution. Councilor Strezo stated that reproductive justice is under attack nationally and at the state level, adding that we are not safe here in Massachusetts. She continued by stating that “abortion is health care. It’s just that simple.”</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
| B. | Resolution
212952
(ID:27909) | By City Councilor Strezo, PinedaNeufeld, Kelly
That the Administration create a plan for accessibility of virtual public meetings during the 2022 COVID pandemic surge to address how those without internet access may participate. |
| | | <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> |
| C. | Order
212967
(ID:27930) | By City Councilor GomezMouakad, Kelly, Davis, Strezo, BurnleyJr., PinedaNeufeld, Clingan
That the Director of Communications report on measures that could be taken to provide more equitable and consistent access to online public meetings. |
| | | <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> |
| D. | Order
213061
(ID:27992) | By City Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss an updated long-term plan for aging in place for residents 65 and over. |
| | | <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> |

- E. Order 213068 (ID:27999) By City Councilor Strezo That the Director of the Council on Aging discuss a plan to allow seniors to be bussed to city events, including on evenings and weekends.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. Order 213069 (ID:28000) By City Councilor Strezo, Clingan That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development and the Director of Health and Human Services discuss a re-assessment to determine if Somerville is in compliance with its 2018 designation as an AARP Age-Friendly Community.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. Public Communication 213099 (ID:28046) Residents submitting comments re: establishment of a special subcommittee to focus on the issues and concerns of older adults.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- H. Order 213113 (ID:28070) By City Councilor GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld That the Chief of Police and the Director of Racial and Social Justice report on the city's policy for traffic stops for undocumented immigrants.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- I. Ordinance 213250 (ID:28207) By City Councilor Strezo, GomezMouakad, Ewen-Campen, Kelly, Wilson, Scott, Clingan, PinedaNeufeld, Davis, McLaughlin, BurnleyJr. Requiring disclaimers or signs for Unlicensed Pregnancy Centers.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- J. Order 213285 (ID:28261) By City Councilor Wilson, Clingan, GomezMouakad, Davis That the Director of Racial and Social Justice and the Director of Communications update this Council on the strategy to address digital equity in our city.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

48. FINANCE COMMITTEE

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| <p>A. Committee Report
213378
(ID:28319)</p> | <p>Report of the Committee on Finance Matters, meeting on March 22, 2022.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Councilor Wilson presented the committee report and reviewed the items discussed and the actions taken by the committee. The committee discussed crossing guard coverage, police staffing, outside counsel, various grants, and mid-fiscal year reports. President McLaughlin said he plans to request the sum of \$50,000 for the Council to use to hire it's own legal counsel. Councilor Davis stated that since there was nothing currently before the Council that might warrant its hiring outside counsel, he feels that there is no need to hear from the City Solicitor on this matter. He maintained that the ordinance is clear. Councilor Kelly asked that the Administration provide the operational process to access those funds. Councilor Scott sponsored Solicitor Wright to address the Council. Solicitor Wright explained that only the mayor may sign a contract and also that any outside counsel would work with the City Solicitor or under him. <u>Councilor Scott made a motion that pursuant to Section 2-121 of the Code of Ordinances, this Council authorizes and requires the employment of outside counsel for a legal opinion on the Council's ability to exercise the provisions of Section 2-121, utilizing outside counsel.</u> Councilor Davis added that this is theater because one person has decided that he's going to be more important than everyone else. The motion was approved. Legislative Liaison Hannah Carrillo said that the administration is willing to work with the Council to make this operational.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> </div> |
| <p>B. Ordinance
212846
(ID:27858)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Scott, Wilson
Proposing an ordinance relative to a mid-fiscal year report of municipal finances, with next-fiscal year budget projections.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</p> </div> |
| <p>C. Order
212847
(ID:27859)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Scott, Wilson, Ewen-Campen
That the Administration comply with Order #206164, relative to the employment of other counsel.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> </div> |
| <p>D. Order
212850
(ID:27862)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Scott, Wilson, Ewen-Campen
That the Administration update this Council on the status of the Police Staffing Study which was included in the FY2022 budget and estimated to take 2-4 months.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> </div> |

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| E. Mayor's Communication
213016
(ID:27965) | Conveying a request for City Council input on priorities for the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget. | RESULT: WORK COMPLETED |
| F. Order
213022
(ID:27970) | By City Councilor Scott
That the Chief of Police provide this Council's Committee on Finance with the full language of the crossing guards' contract and also provide the number of crossing guard hours filled by SPD personnel. | RESULT: WORK COMPLETED |
| G. Mayor's Request
213319
(ID:28228) | Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$6,810 grant with no new match required, from the National Environmental Health Association-U.S. Food and Drug Administration Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant Program to the Inspectional Services Department for inspection team training. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| H. Mayor's Request
213320
(ID:28229) | Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$5,000 grant with no new match required, from the National Environmental Health Association-U.S. Food and Drug Administration Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant Program to the Inspectional Services Department for an FDA self assessment. | RESULT: APPROVED |

49. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

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| A. Committee Report
213379
(ID:28316) | Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on March 15, 2022. | Councilor Davis presented the committee report and reviewed the items discussed and the actions taken by the committee.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| B. Order
212804
(ID:27848) | By City Councilor Davis
That the Administration re-submit its request for approval of a Home Rule Petition to authorize the continued employment of Acting Somerville Police Chief Charles Femino. | RESULT: WORK COMPLETED |
| C. Order
212822
(ID:27847) | By City Councilor Davis
That the Administration re-submit its proposed amendments to modernize the city's biotechnology ordinance. | RESULT: WORK COMPLETED |

- D. Order 212825 (ID:27849) By City Councilor Davis That the Administration re-submit the updated 2021 Surveillance Technology Annual Report.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. Mayor's Request 212995 (ID:27892) Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition to authorize the continued employment of Acting Somerville Police Chief Charles Femino.

RESULT: APPROVED. [10 TO 1]
AYES: Kelly, Wilson, GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld, Strezio, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Davis
NAYS: BurnleyJr.

- F. Mayor's Request 212996 (ID:27906) Requesting approval of an amendment to Ordinance 1-11 to establish the enforcing personnel for violations of the tree ordinance.

RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: BurnleyJr., Kelly, Wilson, GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld, Strezio, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Davis

50. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 213380 (ID:28317) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on March 14, 2022.

Councilor Kelly presented the committee report and briefly spoke about the items discussed and the actions taken by the committee. She invited people to watch the meeting video to view the mental health needs presentation that was given. The committee also discussed several pandemic related issues.
RESULT: APPROVED

- B. Resolution 212832 (ID:27850) By City Councilor GomezMouakad That the Board of Health host a public hearing on the implementation of the order requiring COVID-19 vaccination for indoor entertainment, recreation, dining, and fitness settings in the City of Somerville.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
AMENDED: That the Board of Health, in conjunction with the Economic Development Department, host a public hearing, prior to the implementation date of the order, to provide guidance and information on the implementation of the order requiring COVID-19 vaccination for indoor entertainment, recreation, dining, and fitness settings in the City of Somerville to ensure the most effective roll-out and enforcement of the ordinance.

- C. Order 212974 (ID:27938) By City Councilor Wilson, Burnley Jr., Kelly, PinedaNeufeld, Ewen-Campen That the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on previous efforts to verify and certify employee vaccination status in Somerville businesses.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. Order 212975 (ID:27939) By City Councilor Kelly That the Director of Health and Human Services provide an update on acquiring and distributing 200,000 KF94 or KN95 masks to residents.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. Order 212976 (ID:27940) By City Councilor Kelly That the Director of Health and Human Services provide a plan for all residents to receive at-home COVID tests and increase the number of appointments for PCR tests.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. Order 212977 (ID:27941) By City Councilor Kelly That the Director of Health and Human Services provide an update on contact tracing efforts.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. Order 212978 (ID:27942) By City Councilor Kelly That the Director of Health and Human Services provide an update on how to report positive results of at-home COVID-19 tests.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- H. Order 213142 (ID:28102) By City Councilor Kelly, PinedaNeufeld, Wilson That this Council discuss the barriers to accessing mental health care and the services provided by local community mental health agencies.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

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| 51. | Mayor's Request
213381
(ID:28355) | Requesting approval of proposed amendments to modernize the Biotechnology Ordinance. |
| | | <p>Councilor Davis stated that the current ordinance is dated and that the ordinance now before the Council has been updated. His only objection to the new version is that the effective date is 30 days from when the ordinance is approved.</p> <p>RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]</p> <p>AYES: BurnleyJr., Kelly, Wilson, GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Davis</p> |
| 52. | Mayor's Request
213382
(ID:28362) | Requesting approval of an amendment to Ordinance 1-11 to establish the enforcing personnel for violations of the Condominium Conversion Ordinance. |
| | | <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee</p> |
| 53. | Mayor's Request
213383
(ID:28298) | Requesting acceptance of a Preservation Restriction for 83 Belmont Street. |
| | | <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee</p> |
| 54. | Mayor's Request
213384
(ID:28300) | Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$5,060 using available funds in the Parks and Recreation Retained Earnings Account for Lincoln Park Irrigation Repair costs. |
| | | <p>Councilor Wilson requested that the item be approved.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
| 55. | Mayor's Request
213385
(ID:28301) | Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$2,250 using available funds in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development Ordinary Maintenance account for Lincoln Park acoustical consulting. |
| | | <p>Councilor Wilson requested that the item be approved.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
| 56. | Mayor's Request
213386
(ID:28297) | Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$625 using available funds in the Human Resources Department Professional & Technical Services Account for professional services received in June 2020. |
| | | <p>Councilor Wilson requested that the item be approved.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |

57. Mayor's Request 213387 (ID:28191) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, an \$84,802 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Energy Resources to the Office of Sustainability and Environment for four energy conservation projects in city-owned buildings.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

58. Mayor's Request 213388 (ID:28219) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Richard Lavey III to the position of Police Officer.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

59. Mayor's Request 213389 (ID:28220) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kyle Lentini to the position of Police Officer.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

60. Mayor's Request 213390 (ID:28221) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Tenzing Kartso to the position of Police Officer.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

61. Mayor's Request 213391 (ID:28222) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Patrick Barton to the position of Police Officer.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

62. Mayor's Request 213392 (ID:28223) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jonathan Martins to the position of Police Officer.
- Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**
- FOLLOWUP:** Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee
63. Mayor's Request 213393 (ID:28224) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of William Ruocco to the position of Police Officer.
- Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**
- FOLLOWUP:** Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee
64. Mayor's Request 213394 (ID:28225) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Charles LoBrutto to the position of Police Officer.
- Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**
- FOLLOWUP:** Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee
65. Mayor's Request 213395 (ID:28226) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Gianna Ferrara to the position of Police Officer.
- Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**
- FOLLOWUP:** Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee
66. Mayor's Request 213396 (ID:28227) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Keighla McAloney to the position of Police Officer.
- Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**
- FOLLOWUP:** Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

67. Mayor's Request 213397 (ID:28354) Requesting to appear before this Council with an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) progress update.
- President McLaughlin sponsored ARPA Director Austin Faison to address the Council to present a progress update regarding ARPA issues. Director Faison reviewed how Somerville has been dealing with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and stated that the city has received \$77.5 million for COVID recovery projects, of which \$10,078,200 has been committed to date. The funds must be obligated by the end of calendar year 2024 and spent by the end of calendar year 2026. Director Faison went on to discuss the funding process, the community engagement timeline, community engagement findings, the next steps for continued community engagement, and survey demographics. The legal opinion of counsel is that the Council has the authority to accept these funds, but not to decide how to allocate them. Councilor Kelly asked why less than \$1 million has been allocated to public health and Director Faison replied that FEMA funds were used for public health, so the need to use ARPA funds was less than anticipated. Additional information is available on the city’s ARPA Website at www.somervillema.gov/arpa <<http://www.somervillema.gov/arpa>>.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

68. Officer's Communication 213398 (ID:28306) Assistant City Solicitor submitting an Ordinance Concerning Deceptive Advertising Practices of Limited Services Pregnancy Centers and amending Section 1-11(b) of the Code of Ordinances.
- RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: BurnleyJr., Kelly, Wilson, GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld, Strezio, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Davis
69. Officer's Communication 213399 (ID:28357) Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development requesting to review the proposed First Universalist Church Local Historic District (LHD) at 125 Highland Avenue.
- Councilor Ewen-Campen explained the process for creating a local historic district (LHD) and said that if the LHD approval is not given by April 27th, the building may be demolished.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**
FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

70. Officer's Communication 213400 (ID:28363) Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment conveying an update on the Community Choice Electricity program.

Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment Christine Blais, Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change Chair Larry Yu and Patrick Roche gave a presentation on the Community Choice Electricity program, which is an electricity supply program organized by the City of Somerville to provide residents and businesses with new, City-vetted options for electricity supply. Somerville was one of the first cities to increase the additional renewable energy purchased by default rate customers from 5% to 10%. The program aims to keep costs stable and low for customers while providing more renewable energy than required by the state. Although the current cost of electricity for participants in the program is less than the cost of electricity provided by Eversource, future savings cannot be guaranteed. From 2017 to the present, Somerville increased voluntary renewables from 5% to 10% while keeping costs essentially flat. If Somerville continues voluntarily purchasing 10% net-zero renewable energy, customers signed up for the default Local Green option will receive a total of 77% zero-carbon and state-approved renewable energy by 2030.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

71. Officer's Communication 213401 (ID:28304) DPW Commissioner conveying a memo responding to Items #213114, #213115, #213135, #213136, #213137, #213138, #213139, and #213226.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

72. Officer's Communication 213402 (ID:28305) DPW Commissioner responding to Items #213246, #213283, and #213284.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

73. Officer's Communication 213403 (ID:28353) Planning Board submitting recommendations for Zoning Ordinance amendments, Items #212916, #213008, and #212871.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

NEW BUSINESS

74. License/Permit 213404 (ID:28358) Public Event License, Dancing in the Dark, Munroe Street from Prospect Hill Ave to Greenville St and Prospect Hill Park, Apr 1, 4PM-8:30PM (raindate Apr 2).

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and requested that the item be approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

75. License/Permit 213405 (ID:28310) New Drainlayer's License, EM Lofgren Corporation, Inc.
 Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and requested that the item be approved.
RESULT: APPROVED

76. License/Permit 213406 (ID:28311) Transferring Taxi Medallion License, Medallion #57 from Cinema Taxi Inc to Michael Garvey.
 Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and requested that the item be approved.
RESULT: APPROVED

77. Public Communication 213407 (ID:28302) Harvard University conveying its Spring 2022 Accountability Report.
RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

78. Resolution 213408 (ID:28364) By City Councilor Wilson
 That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for hiring additional staff in the Planning Department.
 Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

79. Resolution 213409 (ID:28367) By City Councilor McLaughlin, BurnleyJr., Wilson
 That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a consultant for the Commission for Women in anticipation of hiring an Executive Director.
 Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

80. Resolution 213410 (ID:28368) By City Councilor BurnleyJr.
 That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for job fairs for vulnerable and marginalized community members, to fill vacant municipal positions.
 Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

81. Resolution 213411 (ID:28369) By City Councilor BurnleyJr. That the FY 2023 budget allocate additional funding for crossing guards in the Parking Department.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

82. Resolution 213412 (ID:28370) By City Councilor BurnleyJr. That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for an interdepartmental role to report on contracted work that could be performed by municipal employees.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

83. Resolution 213413 (ID:28371) By City Councilor BurnleyJr. That the FY 2023 budget allocate additional funding for the installation of audible crosswalks.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

84. Resolution 213414 (ID:28372) By City Councilor BurnleyJr. That the FY 2023 budget allocate additional funding for the repair of potholes and damaged sidewalks.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

85. Resolution 213415 (ID:28365) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for the Human Resources Department to transition to digital systems.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

86. Resolution 213416 (ID:28375) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for the street paving program.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
87. Resolution 213417 (ID:28376) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for upgrading and streamlining internal purchasing, contracting and vendor payment systems.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
88. Resolution 213418 (ID:28377) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for hiring additional inspectors in the Inspectional Services Department.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
89. Resolution 213419 (ID:28378) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for hiring additional planners in the Mobility Division.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
90. Resolution 213420 (ID:28379) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding to create a Section 8 incentive program.
- Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

91. Resolution 213421 (ID:28380) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for quick build traffic calming measures.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

92. Resolution 213422 (ID:28381) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for the redesign of the city's website.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

93. Resolution 213423 (ID:28382) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for the creation of a Mental Health Unit within the Health and Human Services Department.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

94. Resolution 213424 (ID:28383) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate funding for a young adult apprenticeship program.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

95. Resolution 213425 (ID:28384) By City Councilor Clingan That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for a community center.

Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

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| 96. | Resolution
213426
(ID:28385) | <p>By City Councilor Clingan
That the FY 2023 budget allocate increased funding for a citywide youth program.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>Councilor Clingan moved to waive the reading and approve, with a copy to the Finance Committee for further discussion.
 RESULT: APPROVED
 FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee</p> </div> |
| 97. | Order
213427
(ID:28373) | <p>By City Councilor GomezMouakad
That the Department of Public Works and the Department of Human Resources provide a report on current open positions and a comparison of wages to neighboring communities and the private sector.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>RESULT: APPROVED
 FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee</p> </div> |
| 98. | Resolution
213428
(ID:28386) | <p>By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Strezo, Wilson, Scott
That the Administration establish a working group with this Council and various stakeholders to create recommendations for the developer provided community center(s) in Union Square and Boynton Yards.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>Councilor Ewen-Campen commented that there is a widespread desire to get this process moving as soon as possible.
 RESULT: APPROVED</p> </div> |
| 99. | Ordinance
213429
(ID:28387) | <p>By City Councilor Scott
Requiring mid-year fiscal reports provided to this Council.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
 FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee</p> </div> |
| 100. | Mayor's
Request
213430
(ID:28323) | <p>Requesting a text amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance to repeal all references to a Certificate of Zoning Compliance and replace with a requirement for the Building Official to conduct a zoning compliance review and maintain a public record of such reviews for all development.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
 FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee</p> </div> |
| 101. | License/Permit
213431
(ID:28374) | <p>Amending Dog Kennel License, Elliots House Pet Care and More, 230 Somerville Ave, adding overnight boarding for 10 dogs.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Licenses and Permits.
 RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
 FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee</p> </div> |

LATE ITEMS

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| 102. | Order
213432
(ID:28393) | By City Councilor Scott
Pursuant to Section 2-121 of the Code of Ordinances, this Council authorizes and requires the employment of other counsel for an opinion on the ability of this Council to exercise the provisions of Ordinance 2-121, relative to utilizing outside counsel. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 103. | Resolution
213433
(ID:28388) | By City Councilor Scott
That the FY 2023 budget include meaningful investment toward the establishment of a community center. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
| 104. | Resolution
213434
(ID:28389) | By City Councilor Scott
That the FY 2023 budget include creation of a new position focused on policy advocacy for seniors. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
| 105. | Resolution
213435
(ID:28390) | By City Councilor Scott
That the FY 2023 budget include funds for the Arts Council for an RFP to create community organizing capacity for artists. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
| 106. | Resolution
213436
(ID:28391) | By City Councilor Scott
That the FY 2023 budget include a new staff position dedicated to identifying and purchasing land for publicly-owned Open Space creation. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
| 107. | Order
213437
(ID:28392) | By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Human Resources appear before this Council to discuss opting into Massachusetts's Paid Family Medical Leave Act. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee |

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 10:20 PM.