

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 28, 2013, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen'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 OF THE MEETING

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
Maureen Cuff-Bastardi	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Absent	
Tony Lafuente	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	

1. #194346 Call of the Roll.
Roll Call

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

2. #194347 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, January 24, 2013.
Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED

CITATIONS

3. #194348 By Ald. Desmond, and the Entire Board and the Mayor
Citation Commending the High School Varsity Boys Hockey Team for winning the Greater Boston League Championship.

RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

4. #194349 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Commissioner of Public Works or the Director of Traffic and Parking install a DEAD END sign at the entrance to Vinal Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

5. #194350 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Commissioner of Public Works or the Director of Traffic and Parking install a DEAD END sign at the entrance to Beacon Terrace.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

6. #194351 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Commissioner of Public Works place Beacon Terrace on the 2013 re-paving list.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

7. #194352 Order By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi
That the Commissioner of Public Works place a trash receptacle in front of 130 Broadway.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. #194353 Order By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi
That the Commissioner of Public Works instruct all DPW workers and snow removal contractors to heed the NO DUMPING signs at the Community Growing Center at Glen, Oliver and Franklin Streets, adjacent to the Capuano School.

RESULT: APPROVED

9. #194354 Order By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the pot holes on Inner Belt Road, especially those under the train bridge.

RESULT: APPROVED

10. #194355 Resolution By Ald. Cuff-Bastardi, and the Entire Board
That this Board requests that DCR re-categorize the snow removal level for the properties they are responsible for in Somerville from Priority 3 to Priority 2, and notify this Board of their response.

RESULT: APPROVED

11. #194356 Resolution By Ald. Connolly, Taylor, Desmond, White Jr., Sullivan
That this Board requests that the Dedication Committee consider naming a street corner on Walnut Street in memory of the late Ted Buttner, USN retired and World War II veteran.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Veterans and Public Services Committee

12. #194357 Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair three out of service street lamps on Grove Street, between Winslow and Highland Avenues.

RESULT: APPROVED

13. #194358 Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the first street lamp on Villa Avenue, as it is cycling on and off.

RESULT: APPROVED

14. #194359 Resolution By Ald. Sullivan, Trane
That this Board requests that the Administration continue to educate residents on the city's snow removal policy and encourage neighbors to work together, especially during snow storms.

RESULT: APPROVED

15. #194360 Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Chief of Police provide this Board with the 2012 crime statistics and discuss them with the Committee on Public Health and Safety.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

16. #194361 Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Director of SPCD prepare a written analysis for this Board comparing the 2010 federal census with the 2000 census and highlighting the important changes and potential impacts.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

17. #194362 Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Director of SPCD provide this Board with the Development Covenant for Assembly Square between the City, the Redevelopment Authority, and FRIT, including all revisions and amendments.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

18. #194363 Resolution By Ald. Trane
That this Board wishes Nancy Trane the happiest of birthdays, and thanks her for sharing her husband Robert with Ward Seven and the City, particularly on this 28th day of February, the anniversary of her birth.

RESULT: APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

19. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

- A. #194364 Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments, meeting on Committee Report February 26, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #192509 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Todd Easton to the Recreation and Youth Commission.

RESULT: NOT APPROVED

- C. #194083 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Ross Richmond to the Human Rights Commission.

RESULT: APPROVED

- D. #194340 Mayor's Request Requesting the Appointment of Girard Gover to the Position of Fire Captain.

RESULT: APPROVED

- E. #194339 Requesting the Appointment of Wallace Forrest to the Position of District Mayor's Request Fire Chief.

RESULT: APPROVED

20. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. #194365 Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, Committee Report meeting on February 26, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #189727 Order
By Ald. Pero
That the Director of SPCD Report in Writing to the Committee on Housing and Community Development on the Results of the Meeting with the Magoun Square Business Owners and the Ward Five Alderman, to Discuss Parking and Other Issues Affecting the Decline in Business in Magoun Square.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #190955 Order
By Ald. Taylor, Heuston
That the Director of SPCD, in conjunction with the manager of the Union Square Post Office, update the Ward 3 and Ward 2 Aldermen on the pending sale and relocation of the Union Square Post Office.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #191456 Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Library Director create a plan within the scope of the current budget to make the West Branch Library accessible for at least part of a weekend day.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. #191633 Order
By Ald. Heuston, Trane
That the Director of Sustainability and Environment and the Director of SPCD (ISD) provide this Board with plans to help homeowners comply with the Stretch Energy Code, to take advantage of rebates and tax incentives.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. #191925 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD arrange a meeting with the Union Square business community to discuss the proposed Union Square roadway/streetscape improvement design plan.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. #191926 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD provide this Board with an analysis of the recommendations of the MIT Peer Review Study and the Howard/Stein-Hudson Study for Union Square.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- H. #192485 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD update this Board on planned bridge repairs by Mass DOT and plans for alerting the public, diverting traffic and providing assistance for access to affected businesses.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- I. #192734 Resolution By Ald. Lafuente, Desmond, Connolly, Gewirtz, Sullivan, Trane, White Jr.
That this Board requests that the Administration work with this Board to develop streetscape improvements for the Broadway Corridor from McGrath Highway to Alewife Brook Parkway.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- J. #192775 Order By Ald. Trane
That the Director of SPCD (Planning) prepare an outline of personnel, their duties, and the procedures in place for conducting zoning reviews prior to issuing permits for construction.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- K. #194061 Order By Ald. White Jr., Lafuente
That the City Solicitor's Office, SPCD, the Human Rights Commission, and the Commission for Persons with Disabilities review the conduct of the owner of 100 Fellsway West in denying a unit to the winner of the lottery for an affordable unit, including whether such conduct violates the special permit and whether any legal action and/or fines can be initiated.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- L. #194194 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD provide this Board with an update on the tenancy of the Social Security Building in Davis Square.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- M. #194318 Director of Traffic and Parking responding to various Board Orders.
Officer's
Communication

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

21. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. #194366 Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on February 27,
Committee Report 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

22. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. #194367 Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on
Committee Report February 27, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #194196 By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr.
Order That the Chief of Police or his designee appear before this Board's
Committee on Public Health and Safety to report on the Automated License
Plate Recognition devices as used by the Police Department.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #194283 By Ald. Connolly
Order That the Police Chief appear before this Board's Committee on Public
Health and Safety to discuss policies and procedures related to the use and
retention of all video recordings.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #194342 Chief of Police responding to #194283 re: policies for the Police Dept.'s use
Officer's of the automated License Plate Recognition System and the Safe City
Communication Monitoring System.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- E. #194368 By Ald. Heuston
Order That the Chief of Police update the Committee on Public Health and Safety whenever policy changes are made regarding the use of license plate readers and/or quick deploy video cameras.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

23. #194369 Requesting approval of an ordinance to establish the Community
Mayor's Request Preservation Committee.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

24. #194370 Requesting the transfer of a portion of the former Assembly Square Drive to
Mayor's Request the Redevelopment Authority.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

25. #194371 Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$394,700 in a bond
Mayor's Request for Retaining Wall Repairs to the bike path east of Davis Square.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

26. #194372 Requesting an appropriation of \$117,030 from Unreserved Fund Balance
Mayor's Request ("Free Cash") to the Election Dept.'s Special Elections Account to fund the April 30, 2013 Special State Primary Election and the June 25, 2013 Special State Election for the US Senate.

RESULT: APPROVED

27. #194373 Requesting an appropriation of \$8,246 from Unreserved Fund Balance
Mayor's Request ("Free Cash") to the Recreation Dept. Equipment Account to procure a batting cage.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

28. #194374 Requesting acceptance of a mitigation payment of \$11,750 to establish the
Mayor's Request Linwood Street Sidewalk Improvements Stabilization Fund.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

29. #194375 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$11,750 from the Linwood Street Sidewalk Improvements Stabilization Fund to carry out the purposes of the fund.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

30. #194376 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a mitigation payment of \$8,000 to establish the Davis Square Traffic and Sign Stabilization Fund.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

31. #194377 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$8,000 from the Davis Square Traffic and Sign Stabilization Fund to carry out the purposes of the Fund.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

32. #194378 Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$3,073 from the Salary Contingency Account to the Personnel Salaries Account to fund a salary adjustment in the Personnel Dept.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

33. #194379 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to pay 3 prior year invoices in the Traffic and Parking Dept., totalling \$1,855.70.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

34. #194380 Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of an Assistance to Firefighters Grant of \$201,600 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Fire Dept.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

35. #194381 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of William Roche as Director of Personnel.

RESULT: APPROVED

36. #194382 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Scott Kingsley as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

37. #194383 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Nathaniel Greene as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

38. #194384 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Darcy Haynes as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

39. #194385 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Ruth Barbosa as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

40. #194386 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Donna Leon Pierre as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

41. #194387 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Derek Morrison as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

42. #194388 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Geovanne Colon as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

NEW BUSINESS

43. #194389 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Executive Auto Body, 30 Medford St., through April 30, 2013.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

44. #194390 Public Communication 59 residents submitting comments re: #194056, a proposed ban on polystyrene.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

45. #194391 Public Communication Lynn Weissman submitting comments re: #194060, a zoning amendment to permit a larger ground-floor supermarket at Assembly Square.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

46. #194392 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of Public Health announce Mystic River water hazards to the public as Cambridge does, so residents may participate in cutting back on water use during storms, diverting gutters into gardens and taking other proactive steps to protect the river.

RESULT: APPROVED

47. #194393 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Commissioner of Public Works, the City Arborist and the Director of SPCD (Transportation and Infrastructure) evaluate the tree at 191 Cedar Street for safety issues.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

48. #194394 Order By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board discharges from the Committee of the Whole both #179372, a 2005 Petition from 10 registered voters for a ballot question on divestment from Israel, and #181115, a 2006 Resolution supporting immigrants and a path to permanent status.

RESULT: APPROVED

#179372 was subsequently Placed on File. #181115 was subsequently Referred to the Committee on Legislative Matters.

49. #194395 Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$8,500 in the Inspectional Services Department, from its Professional and Technical Services Account to its Salaries Account.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

50. #194396 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Julia Prange Wallerice to the Fair Housing Commission.

RESULT: APPROVED

51. #194397 License/Permit Sign/Awning Permit, MA Association of Portuguese Speakers, 92 Union Sq., One awning and two banners.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

52. #194398 Public Communication 6 residents submitting comments re: #194056, a proposed ban on polystyrene.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

LATE ITEMS

53. #179372 Public Communication Ten registered voters submitting a petition for a ballot question on divestment from Israel.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

Discharged from the Committee of the Whole.

54. #181115 Resolution By Ald. Heuston, Desmond, Sullivan, Taylor, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane, and the Mayor
That the City hereby re-affirms its longstanding policies in support of all immigrants, and expresses its support for comprehensive immigration reform that combines a path to permanent status for immigrants already here with the humane enforcement of our nation's borders.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

Discharged from the Committee of the Whole.

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk