

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2019, 7:00 PM
 City Council Chamber, City Hall-93 Highland Avenue

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 OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Ward Seven City Councilor Katjana Ballantyne.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Stephanie Hirsch	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Wilfred N. Mbah	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	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 208911 (ID:21754) Call of the Roll.

	Councilor Hirsch sponsored a moment of silence for John Marques. President Ballantyne sponsored a moment of silence for Stan Koty. RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
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2. Minutes 208912 (ID:21755) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 22, 2019.

	RESULT: APPROVED
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CITATIONS

3. Citation 208913 (ID:21760) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, and the Mayor Congratulating Bishop Henry Moultrie II on the auspicious occasion of his retirement after 45 years of Pastoral leadership at the Mission Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

	Councilors Ewen-Campen and Niedergang congratulated Bishop Moultrie with a Citation for his 45 years of service. Members of his congregation spoke of his spirituality, his leadership, and his accomplishments. RESULT: APPROVED
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4. Citation 208914 (ID:21761) By City Councilor White Jr., and the Mayor Congratulating the Patronage of St. Joseph Church, Somerville's first Roman Catholic Parish, now celebrating 150 years of faithful service to the community.

Councilor White will deliver this Citation on October 6 at the Church's anniversary celebration.

RESULT: APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. Grant of Location 208915 (ID:21762) Submitted by Eversource to install 34 feet of conduit in Washington St, from Pole 358/17 to a point of pickup at 105 Washington St.

The President opened the public hearing. Jacqueline Duffy with Eversource discussed the details of work to be completed. With no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.

RESULT: APPROVED

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

6. Resolution 208916 (ID:21731) By City Councilor Ballantyne, Hirsch That the Administration, the Chief of Police and the Superintendent of Schools implement a policy that discourages municipal employees from parking city vehicles in MBTA bus stops.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. Order 208917 (ID:21732) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Parking immediately address the incomplete striping of Powderhouse Boulevard, as the lack of clear striping puts pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers at risk.

President Ballantyne noted that this work has now been completed.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. Order 208918 (ID:21749) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of SPCD place signage on Medford Street letting pedestrians know where they can walk.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

9. Order 208919 (ID:21750) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of the Arts Council discuss the SomerStreets and city-wide strategies in light of the city's growing population.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

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| <p>10. Order
208920
(ID:21751)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Director of SPCD develop a plan to plant a native species pollinator garden along the Community Path.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee</p> | |
| <p>11. Order
208921
(ID:21744)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD schedule a meeting with the residents of Partridge Avenue who filed a traffic calming petition, or respond to them with a written communication.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee</p> | |
| <p>12. Order
208922
(ID:21745)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Niedergang
That the City Solicitor and Chief of Police report to this Council on how civil asset forfeiture funds have been received and spent over the past 5 years, and how they can be directed to the General Fund.</p> |
| <p>Councilor Mbah reported that he learned of civil asset forfeitures as a result of discussions into the allegations made against Somerville Police during the Boston Straight Pride Parade.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee</p> | |
| <p>13. Order
208923
(ID:21746)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch, Ballantyne
That the Director of SPCD or the Director of SomerStat develop an estimate of funding required to pay for or subsidize MBTA fares for residents of different income levels and ages.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee</p> | |
| <p>14. Order
208924
(ID:21747)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management discuss the next steps to evaluate the needs of municipal functions not included in the first round of the Departmental Relocation Strategy, such as Parks and Recreation, Council on Aging, and Parking.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee</p> | |
| <p>15. Order
208925
(ID:21748)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Director of SomerStat provide an update on the implementation of the Happiness Survey.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee</p> | |

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

16. Resolution 208892 (ID:21712) By City Councilor White Jr., Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah Supporting House H.2848, an Act to Ensure Gas Safety and Consumer Fairness.

Councilor White stated that this item was first recommended by Mother's Out Front. Councilor White sponsored Bonnie Cohen from Mother's Out Front to speak, and she advocated approval of H2848, H2849, and S1940 at the Statehouse in order to stop the needless leakage of natural gas through unrepaired pipes into the environment, and save consumers from paying for that lost fuel.

RESULT: APPROVED

17. Resolution 208893 (ID:21713) By City Councilor White Jr., Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah Supporting House H.2849 and Senate S.1940, an Act for Utility Transition to Using Renewable Energy (Future).

Councilor White stated that this item was first recommended by Mother's Out Front. Councilor White sponsored Bonnie Cohen from Mother's Out Front to speak, and she advocated approval of H2848, H2849, and S1940 at the Statehouse in order to stop the needless leakage of natural gas through unrepaired pipes into the environment, and save consumers from paying for that lost fuel.

RESULT: APPROVED

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

18. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 208926 (ID:21739) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on September 23, 2019.

Councilor Scott reported that first, the Committee went into Executive Session to discuss strategy and litigation matters related to pending civil service actions. Then six Police promotions were considered, and four were approved unanimously, one was approved on a four to one vote, and one was not approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. Mayor's Request 208524 (ID:21312) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Richard Lavey to the position of Police Captain.

RESULT: APPROVED

- C. Mayor's Request 208525 (ID:21315) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Michael Holland to the position of Police Lieutenant.

RESULT: APPROVED

D.	Mayor's Request 208526 (ID:21316)	Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Michael Kiely to the position of Police Lieutenant.	RESULT: NOT APPROVED
E.	Mayor's Request 208527 (ID:21317)	Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Michael Capasso to the position of Police Lieutenant.	RESULT: APPROVED
F.	Mayor's Request 208528 (ID:21313)	Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Paul Anderson to the position of Police Sergeant.	RESULT: APPROVED
G.	Mayor's Request 208529 (ID:21314)	Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Devin Schneider to the position of Police Sergeant.	RESULT: APPROVED
H.	Resolution 208620 (ID:21410)	By City Councilor Mbah That this Council's Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee be provided legal counsel to advise in the matter of #208571 and #208572, due to a conflict of interest expressed by the City Solicitor's Office.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
I.	Order 208621 (ID:21411)	By City Councilor Rossetti That the Director of Personnel provide the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters with any available public documents regarding the signatories to the police reserve list who were not appointed.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
J.	Order 208622 (ID:21412)	By City Councilor Scott That the City Solicitor and the Director of Personnel provide the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters with a clarification of the civil service classification categories.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

19. FINANCE COMMITTEE

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| <p>A. Committee Report 208927 (ID:21740)</p> | <p>Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on September 24, 2019.</p> <p>Councilor McLaughlin recused with respect to Police Department matters. Councilor White reported on several bonds that were approved by the Committee, along with a few other financial items. He reported that a request to borrow \$537,000 in a Bond for environmental remediation design services at Conway Park generated some discussion, and the Committee went into Executive Session to discuss negotiations between the City and the EPA over the contaminated Park. He reported that this bond was only to pay for the services of Weston and Sampson, the license site professional for the project, who the City has to employ because of the pollution at the site. The City Council approved the rest of the report, but severed this item (#208708) for further discussion. Mayor's Aide Annie Connors stated that this funding was needed to pay for Weston Sampson's ongoing services, and approval was time sensitive. Councilor McLaughlin moved to keep the item in Committee, and Councilor Scott moved to lay it on the table. Councilor White argued that these funds are for design work, and we fund design all the time. He said this work is going to be necessary. After Councilors Davis, Ewen-Campen and Clingan spoke in favor of the item, Councilors Scott and McLaughlin withdrew their motions. Before a vote was taken, the Council convened in Executive Session at 9:30 PM to discuss this item with respect to anticipated litigation. No votes were taken in Executive Session, and the Council reconvened at 10 PM, and approved the bond.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
| <p>B. Mayor's Request 208707 (ID:21499)</p> | <p>Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$817,000 in a bond for demolition, legal fees, and site preparation work at 90 Washington St.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Hirsch, Mbah, Rossetti, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| <p>C. Mayor's Request 208708 (ID:21501)</p> | <p>Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$537,000 in a bond for environmental remediation and design services at Conway Park.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
 AYES: Hirsch, Mbah, Rossetti, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |
| <p>D. Mayor's Request 208710 (ID:21490)</p> | <p>Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$63,503.53 using available funds in the Redevelopment Authority Ordinary Maintenance Account for Legal services for the 90 Washington Demonstration Project.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |

E. Mayor's Request 208854 (ID:21624) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$2,745,543.06 in a bond to fund Union Square Revitalization Plan eminent domain settlements.

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

F. Mayor's Request 208855 (ID:21625) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$900,000 for participation in the MWRA Lead Line Replacement Program.

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

G. Mayor's Request 208858 (ID:21621) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$58,056.94 using available funds in various DPW General Fund Accounts.

RESULT: APPROVED

H. Mayor's Request 208859 (ID:21623) Requesting acceptance of a \$191,075 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Energy Resources Green Communities Division to the Office of Sustainability & Environment for energy efficiency projects in school and administrative buildings.

RESULT: APPROVED

I. Mayor's Request 208860 (ID:21619) Requesting acceptance of a \$43,600 grant with no new match required, from the Mass Cultural Council to the Arts Council to support the LCC re-grant program.

RESULT: APPROVED

J. Mayor's Request 208861 (ID:21620) Requesting acceptance of a \$11,500 grant with no new match required, from the Mass Cultural Council to the Arts Council for supporting operational costs.

RESULT: APPROVED

K. Mayor's Request 208894 (ID:21497) Requesting acceptance of a \$298,280 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Mental Health to the Police Department, for Crisis Intervention Team training.

RESULT: APPROVED

L. Mayor's Request 208895 (ID:21484) Requesting acceptance of a \$105,555.55 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for maritime equipment.

RESULT: APPROVED

- M. Mayor's Request 208896 (ID:21491) Requesting acceptance of a \$100,000 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for expenditures and backfill/overtime for the Special Response Team.

RESULT: APPROVED

- N. Mayor's Request 208897 (ID:21493) Requesting acceptance of a \$50,459.46 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for expenditures for the purchase of a Prime Mover.

RESULT: APPROVED

20. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 208928 (ID:21738) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on September 19, 2019.

Councilor Davis reported that the Committee met jointly with the Planning Board for a public hearing on Version 4 of the Zoning Overhaul. The materials presented to the Committee are available on www.somervillezoning.com. Planner Dan Bartman presented an overview of the Overhaul, and highlighted some of the key differences between Version 3 and Version 4.

RESULT: APPROVED

21. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 208929 (ID:21735) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on September 17, 2019.

Councilor Niedergang reported that three items were discussed: the Small Wireless Facilities Ordinance, the Surveillance Technology Ordinance, and the Housing Stability Notification Act Ordinance. The Committee reviewed the Wireless Ordinance and learned that the City enacts design standards to make sure the equipment meets aesthetic and physical design standards. The Committee requested that Health Director Doug Kress appear to address health issues related to 5G wireless facilities, and how other communities have addressed them. Next the Committee discussed the Surveillance Technology Ordinance to provide oversight over the procurement and usage of surveillance technologies. Mayor's Aide Annie Connor said that the Ordinance is very close to having the support of the Administration. Councilor Ewen-Campen said he removed language about body cameras, due to possible collective bargaining issues with the Police Department's unions. Finally the Committee reviewed the Housing Stability Notification Act, requiring a landlord to provide information about a tenant's legal rights and resources when a tenant is being evicted or given a notice to vacate. The Office of Housing Stability will develop a form for landlords to use. Councilor Davis's motion to add language clarifying that failure to comply with the ordinance will constitute a separate violation for each tenant affected was adopted. Councilor White asked how this legislation is different from Boston's Jim Brooks proposal, and Housing Stability Director

Eileen Schacter responded that the Jim Brooks proposal required State approval of a Home Rule Petition because it significantly altered landlord/tenant law. This ordinance just imposes a civil penalty.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED

AMENDED: #208626 was replaced by #208941, which incorporated the amendments requested by the Committee.

- B. Mayor's Request 208626 (ID:21419) Requesting approval of an Ordinance to be known as the Housing Stability Notification Act.

This item was replaced by #208941, which was Approved, Enrolled and Ordained.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- C. Order 208930 (ID:21752) By City Councilor Davis That the City Solicitor draft language in the Housing Stability Notification Act, to clarify that a failure to comply with its provisions shall constitute a separate violation for each former homeowner or tenant.

RESULT: APPROVED

22. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 208931 (ID:21741) Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on September 25, 2019.

Councilor Rossetti reported that the Committee reviewed several grants of location. Most were approved, but on Eversource's proposal to bring service to the proposed T Station at Gilman Square, the Committee decided to hold off until the company had addressed the concerns of an abutter. And on Extanet's proposal to replace a pole at 546 Broadway by Trum Field, the Committee decided to await further information about the pole, to make sure it matches the existing poles on the street. Finally, on Eversource's proposal for work at 1244 Broadway, the Committee decided to see if the property owner could get Comcast and Verizon to clean up their spaghetti-like wiring. Eversource representative Jackie Duffy reported that Eversource is not on that pole. The Committee discussed the increasing number of "dead drops"--inactive communications connections--caused by cable and phone companies failing to remove old, discontinued service lines when installing new ones.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. Officer's Communication 207772 (ID:20669) Police Detective conveying a report of the arrest of the owner of Tosh Enterprises, which holds a Junk Dealer License at 260 Elm St.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

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| C. | Grant of Location
208358
(ID:21245) | Submitted by Eversource to install 23 feet of conduit in Chester Ave from Utility Pole 64/0 to a point of pickup at 141 Cross St. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| D. | Grant of Location
208676
(ID:21554) | Submitted by ExteNet Systems to install a wireless small cell antenna and related equipment on the pole on Bradley St adjacent to 32 Jackson Rd. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| E. | Grant of Location
208800
(ID:21690) | Submitted by Eversource to install 76 feet of conduit in Farragut Ave from Pole 220/1 to a point of pickup at the rear of 1244-1248 Broadway. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee |
| F. | Grant of Location
208803
(ID:21692) | Submitted by Eversource to install 34 feet of conduit in Murdock St from Pole 246/2 to a point of pickup at 17-25 Murdock St. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| G. | Order
208932
(ID:21782) | By City Councilor Scott
That the City Solicitor advise this Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits about regulating utility/communication dead drops, with background on the low voltage court cases initiated by the City of Boston. | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee |

23. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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| A. | Committee Report
208933
(ID:21737) | Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on September 18, 2019. | Councilor Clingan reported that there were two public hearings held. The first public hearing was on airplane noise. There was a presentation by Wig Zamore, Somerville's representative on Logan Airport's Community Advisory Committee. He said that in 2013 Logan changed the flight patterns from a dispersed pattern to a concentrated pattern, so airplanes were flying over fewer homes but more frequently over those homes. Some of the community speakers said the noise has become a serious quality of life problem. The next public hearing was on the Somerville Police Department's involvement in the Straight Pride Parade in Boston. The Mayor encouraged people to come forward with any videos they have documenting police-protester interactions. | RESULT: APPROVED |
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24. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

A. Committee Report 208934 (ID:21736) Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on September 18, 2019.

Councilor Niedergang reported that members of the Bicycle Committee, Vision Zero Task Force and the general public attended this meeting. The Committee discussed options for selecting members for the new Pedestrian Transit Committee, and its possible relation to the Vision Zero Task Force and the Bicycle Committee. The Committee also reviewed proposed traffic calming projects and how they are prioritized by staff. The Committee discussed communication and collaboration with State Agencies to improve pedestrian safety in the Mystic Avenue area near I93, following the deaths of two pedestrians hit by motor vehicles there. There will be a community meeting on October 1 at 6:00 PM at the East Somerville Community School with representatives from Mass DOT present to discuss the planning process for work on dangerous roads. The Committee also discussed the Winter Hill in Motion project that added bike and bus lanes on Broadway, and traffic concerns at the McGrath and Broadway intersection and at the Webster Avenue and Somerville Avenue intersection.

RESULT: APPROVED

B. Public Communication 202594 (ID:15277) Cambridge Director of Traffic and Parking responding to #202317, requesting an appearance to discuss Inman Square traffic changes.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

C. Order 204796 (ID:17534) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Director of SPCD consider painting two new crosswalks on Elm Street near the Kennedy School, and discuss these and other traffic-calming measures there with the Ward 5 Alderman.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

D. Order 205077 (ID:17836) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Director of SPCD update this Board on Cambridge's plan to eliminate the left turn onto Massachusetts Avenue from the Porter Square shopping center, which is likely to add traffic to White Street, a small street that is inadequate for such traffic.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

E. Order 205092 (ID:17851) By City Councilor Clingan That the Traffic Commission consider creating a process for residents to comment on parking changes that affect their streets.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

F. Resolution 205333 (ID:18082) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen That the Traffic Commission revoke the "48-hour parking ban."

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

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| G. Order
205802
(ID:18575) | By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin, Scott
That the Director of SPCD report to the Wards 1, 2 and 3 Aldermen and this Board on the plans for any GLX-related closures of Washington Street, near the McGrath Highway underpass. |
| RESULT: WORK COMPLETED | |
| H. Order
207590
(ID:20403) | By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Scott, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.
That the Director of Traffic and Parking immediately prioritize blocking truck access to Warren Avenue to prevent additional crashes and property damage during the Somerville Avenue detour. |
| RESULT: WORK COMPLETED | |
| I. Order
207591
(ID:20404) | By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Scott, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.
That the Director of Traffic and Parking immediately install pedestrian safety measures on Bow Street, Warren Avenue and Columbus Avenue to deal with the increase of traffic during the Somerville Avenue detour. |
| RESULT: WORK COMPLETED | |
| J. Order
207715
(ID:20526) | By City Councilor Niedergang, Davis, Mbah
That the Director of SPCD inform the Ward 5 and Ward 6 Councilors and the public as soon as possible the route and schedule for the City shuttle van that will ferry passengers around the closed Broadway/Ball Square Bridge. |
| RESULT: WORK COMPLETED | |
| K. Order
208033
(ID:20837) | By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install new, vehicle-safe, bolt-in-place YIELD FOR PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALK signs at the intersections of Lowell and Hudson Streets and Lowell and Albion Streets, as soon as they are available. |
| RESULT: WORK COMPLETED | |
| L. Order
208036
(ID:20840) | By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD report to this Council in writing by May 9, 2019 ridership data for the “Bridge Hopper” shuttle. |
| RESULT: WORK COMPLETED | |
| M. Order
208688
(ID:21563) | By City Councilor Hirsch, Niedergang, Ballantyne
That the Director of Mobility discuss with advocates and Councilors, options for the selection process for the new Pedestrian/Transit Committee and discuss its possible relationship to the Vision Zero Task Force and the Bicycle Committee. |
| RESULT: WORK COMPLETED | |

- N. Order 208846 (ID:21666) By City Councilor Niedergang, Davis That the Director of SPCD report to this Council with ridership data for the City's "Bridge Hopper" shuttle to assess whether it has been worthwhile and whether there should be changes to its operation. (2nd request)

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

25. Mayor's Request 208935 (ID:21734) Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$45,000 to the DPW Buildings & Grounds Electricity Account to procure renewable energy for City operations.

RESULT: APPROVED

26. Mayor's Request 208936 (ID:21753) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$330 using available funds in the Health and Human Services Professional & Technical Services Account for contracted nursing services.

Councilor White requested to waive the readings of items 26 and 27 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

27. Mayor's Request 208937 (ID:21729) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$120 for a subscription using available funds in the Library's Magazines and Periodicals Account.

RESULT: APPROVED

28. Mayor's Request 208938 (ID:21742) Requesting acceptance of a \$50,000 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for the purchase of 2 all-terrain vehicles.

Councilor White requested to waive the reading of item 28 and refer it to the Finance Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

29. Mayor's Request 208939 (ID:21743) Requesting acceptance of an \$18,700 grant with no new match required, from the MA Dept of Public Health to the Police Department to purchase and provide training for Naxalone.

RESULT: APPROVED

30. Mayor's Request 208940 (ID:21728) Requesting approval of a time extension for the contract with Suffolk Construction for High School Construction Manager services, to December 31, 2021.
- Councilor White sponsored Director of Infrastructure Rich Raiche to explain the need to extend the High School construction management contract, and he said that construction is well underway, and, since the project runs more than three years, it requires the approval of the Council to extend it to December 31, 2021.
- RESULT: APPROVED**

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

31. Officer's Communication 208941 (ID:21756) Director of Housing Stability responding to #208626 with an updated Housing Stability Notification Act ordinance pursuant to the Legislative Matters Committee meeting on 9/17/19.
- For discussion of this item, see #208626.
- RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Hirsch, Mbah, Rossetti, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

NEW BUSINESS

32. License/Permit 208942 (ID:21763) Public Event License, Gilman Sq Neighborhood Association Block Party, Richdale Ave from School St to Lee St and Essex St from Richdale Ave to Medford St, Sep 28, 11AM-6PM (raindate Sep 29).
- Councilor Rossetti requested to waive the readings of items 32 through 40 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
33. License/Permit 208943 (ID:21764) Public Event License, Duck Village Block Party, Palmacci Park and Skehan St from Durham St to Hanson St and Hanson St from Skehan St to Nevada St, Sep 28, Noon-9PM (raindate Sep 29).
- RESULT: APPROVED**
34. License/Permit 208944 (ID:21765) Public Event License, Women's Commission Candlelight Vigil for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Statue Park, Oct 2, 1-8PM.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
35. License/Permit 208945 (ID:21766) Public Event License, Benton Rd Block Party, from Summer St to Highland Ave, Oct 5, Noon-6PM (raindate Oct 6).
- RESULT: APPROVED**

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| 36. License/Permit
208946
(ID:21767) | Public Event License, Highland Rd Block Party, from Summer St to Highland Ave, Oct 6, 2-8PM (raindate Oct 5). | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 37. License/Permit
208947
(ID:21768) | Public Event License, HONK! Festival, Fri Oct 11, 2-9:30PM: Hodgkins Park and area sidewalks; Sat Oct 12, 10AM-10PM: Seven Hills, Statue, and Kenney Parks, Elm St from Dover St to Cutter Ave, Chester St from Elm St to Herbert St, Dover St from Davis Sq to Flatbread Pizza, Summer St north side from Elm St to Windom St; Sun Oct 13, 10AM-2PM: Herbert St Lot, Day St from Orchard St to Elm St, Bowers Ave, Elm St to Beech St, Beech St to Cambridge. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 38. License/Permit
208948
(ID:21769) | Public Event License, HONK! Festival Dinner and Party, ArtFarm, Oct 12 & 13, 4PM-2AM. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 39. License/Permit
208949
(ID:21770) | Public Event License, Bond St Block Party, from Jaques St to Broadway, Oct 19, 10AM-5PM (raindate Oct 26). | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 40. License/Permit
208950
(ID:21771) | Renewing Open Air Vendor License, Next Wave-Full Circle School, 8 Bonair St. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 41. Public
Communication
208951
(ID:21772) | 29 Washington Street Realty Trust proposing a zoning amendment to re-zone their property at 29 Washington St to MR4 or MR5. | <p>Also referred to the Planning Board.</p> <p>President Ballantyne requested to waive the reading of item 41 and refer it to the Land Use Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee</p> |
| 42. Public
Communication
208952
(ID:21773) | 15 residents submitting comments re: airplane noise. | <p>President Ballantyne requested to waive the readings of items 42 and 43 and place them on file with a copy to the Public Health and Public Safety Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee</p> |

43. Public Communication 208953 (ID:21774) Isabella Revett submitting comments re: the role of the Somerville Police in Boston's Straight Pride Parade on Aug 31.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

44. Order 208954 (ID:21775) By City Councilor Clingan That the Commissioner of Public Works demand that Russell Disposal put an immediate end to the illegal practice of backing their trucks down one-way streets.

RESULT: APPROVED

45. Order 208955 (ID:21776) By City Councilor Clingan That the Director of Parking install an illuminated STOP sign at the corner of Jacques Street at Edgar Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

46. Order 208956 (ID:21777) By City Councilor Hirsch That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss with this Council, any implications for Somerville as a result of the Governor’s newly announced four-month ban on the sale of vaping products.

RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

47. Order 208957 (ID:21781) By City Councilor Scott, McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Davis, Niedergang, Mbah, White Jr., Ballantyne, Hirsch, Clingan That this Council’s Committee on Licenses and Permits schedule a Show Cause hearing to determine why any business licenses issued to the Herb Chamber companies by this body should not be suspended or revoked for violations of the City’s Wage Theft Ordinance.

Councilor Scott reported that the Wage Theft Ordinance that was passed by the City Council in 2013 was considered unenforceable despite having been drafted by the Law Department. However, a second opinion from the Attorney General has determined that it is enforceable. The Herb Chambers company has been found responsible by the State for wage theft violations.

RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

48. Mayor's Request 208958 (ID:21784) Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition to expand the funding scope of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

49. Officer's Communication 208959 (ID:21779) Senior Planner requesting to appear before this Council to provide an update on the SomerVision 2040 process.

Senior Planner Melissa Woods along with Community Outreach Coordinator Victor Nascimento and Community Member and Somervision Co-Chair Rachel Borgates addressed the Council with an update on Somervision 2040. They discussed the planning process and the attempt to include as many community members as possible. The plan will focus on such community concerns as equity, health, and affordable housing.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

50. Officer's Communication 208960 (ID:21778) Director of Parks and Recreation responding to #208682 re: opportunities and barriers for non-binary youth and adults to participate in athletics and access public facilities.

President Ballantyne requested to waive the reading of item 50 and place it on file with a copy to the Special Committee on Equity. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Families and Vulnerable Populations Special Committee

51. Officer's Communication 208961 (ID:21730) Director of Parks and Recreation responding to #208816 re: maintenance and staffing at the Kennedy School Pool.

President Ballantyne requested to waive the reading of item 51 and place it on file with a copy to the Youth Services Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Youth Services Committee

52. License/Permit 208962 (ID:21780) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Keash Excavation.

Councilor Rossetti requested to waive the reading of item 52 and approve it. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

53. Public Communication 208963 (ID:21783) 28 residents commenting on the completion of the reconstruction of Beacon Street, and next steps.

President Ballantyne requested to waive the reading of item 53 and place it on file. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

LATE ITEMS

54. Resolution 208964 (ID:21787) By City Councilor White Jr.
That the Administration invite representatives from Weston & Sampson and relevant outside counsel to appear before this Council's Finance Committee to discuss all issues pertaining to the remediation and design of Conway Park.

RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

55. Order 208965 (ID:21785) By City Councilor Ballantyne, Davis
That the Commissioner of Public Works require contractors closing sidewalks for the West Branch Library construction project to put up signage directing pedestrians where to cross safely at a crosswalk.

RESULT: APPROVED

56. Communication 208966 (ID:21786) By City Councilor Davis
Reminding the public of a Walking Tour of Ball Square, called "Boulders Bricks and Brunch," occurring this Sunday, September 29, from 2 to 4 PM.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 11:25 PM.