



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 23, 2025

7:00 PM

**City Council Chamber and Remote
Participation**

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NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, this meeting of the City Council may be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audiovideo recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

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https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SKI4k05nRZyp7bxtMYsErA

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1. OPENING CEREMONIES

- 1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # [25-1608](#))
- 1.2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # [25-1609](#))
- 1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
(ID # [25-1610](#)) September 25, 2025.

2. CITATIONS

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 3.1. Grant of Location Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install a
(ID # [25-1583](#)) total of 7 feet of conduit in White Street, from
Cambridge/Somerville line to a point of pickup at White
Street Place.

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Resolution By Councilor Mbah
(ID # [25-1578](#)) In support of public higher education in Massachusetts.
- 4.2. Order By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # [25-1589](#)) That the Director of Engineering and the Director of Mobility work to block off the end of Virginia Street and Aldrich Street to through traffic.
- 4.3. Order By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # [25-1590](#)) That the Director of Mobility provide an update on the Kensington Connector.
- 4.4. Order By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # [25-1592](#)) That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development direct that all funds generated from Assembly Row community benefits funds be used in East Somerville.
- 4.5. Order By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # [25-1593](#)) That the Director of Human Resources and the Chief of Police work with state officials to provide crossing guards on McGrath Highway.
- 4.6. Resolution By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # [25-1591](#)) That the Administration collaborate with East Somerville Main Streets and the Ward 1 City Councilor to promote Eat Out in East to support East Somerville immigrant-owned businesses.
- 4.7. Resolution By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # [25-1588](#)) That this City Council commends the members of the Charter Review Committee on their years of volunteer service to the community.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES****6.A. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 6.A.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on
(ID # [25-1602](#)) October 21, 2025.

- 6.A.2. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1504](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$13,084.20 using available funds in the Parks & Recreation Department Recreation Supplies Account for pool chemicals.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.3. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1508](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$1,533.75 using available funds in the Parks & Recreation Department Recreation Supplies Account for pool chemicals.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.4. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1520](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$500,000 grant with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center to the Office of Sustainability and Environment for six no-cost electric vehicle charging station installations.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.5. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1538](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$56,215.42 from the Bike Share Stabilization Fund for installation and startup costs of a Blue Bike station at the 495 Columbia Street development site.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.6. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1543](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$147,724.07 from the COVID-19 Stabilization Fund for the 2026 Warming Center.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.7. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1545](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only extension until 12/31/2028 for the contract with Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners for design services on the Building Master Plan.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.8. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1546](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only extension until 12/31/2028 for the contract with Kleinfelder Northeast Inc. for design services on the Morrison Avenue Linear Storage Sewer project.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.A.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1557](#)) Requesting approval to create the BrickBottom Infrastructure Stabilization fund and accept a payment to the fund of \$763,814.81, from off-site infrastructure and other contributions outlined in the BrickBottom district project development covenants, for the purpose of funding public infrastructure projects that mitigate the impact of large-scale development in the BrickBottom district.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.10. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1559](#)) Requesting approval to create the Boynton Yards Infrastructure Stabilization fund and accept a payment to the fund of \$384,025, from off-site infrastructure and other contributions outlined in the Boynton Yards district project development covenants, for the purpose of funding public infrastructure projects that mitigate the impact of large-scale development in the Boynton Yards district.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.B. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- 6.B.1. Committee Report (ID # [25-1601](#)) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on October 20, 2025.
- 6.B.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1407](#)) Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition to raise the sound business practices and written quote contract thresholds under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B for city contracts with certified disadvantaged businesses.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved as amended.

6.C. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

- 6.C.1. Committee Report (ID # [25-1580](#)) Report of the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works, meeting on October 15, 2025.
- 6.C.2. Order (ID # [25-1133](#)) By Councilor Sait
That the Commissioner of Public Works increase sanitary maintenance of the streets and sidewalks in Magoun Square.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

- 6.C.3. Resolution
(ID # [25-1177](#))
- By Councilor Sait, Councilor Wilson and Councilor Burnley Jr.
That Eversource explain the reasons behind repeated power outages in Magoun Square, and share what they have done to address them in the near term and what is being done to prevent long term recurrence.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.4. Order
(ID # [25-1456](#))
- By Councilor Strezo
That the Commissioner of Public Works discuss with this Council the recent snagging of overhead wires by a semi-truck, that took out the electricity in Ward Seven, and what plans have been put in place to prevent a similar occurrence.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1606](#))
- Requesting authorization to enter into a Tax Increment Financing Agreement with a full building occupant of a laboratory building.
- 7.2. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1594](#))
- Requesting approval of the amended 90 Washington Street Demonstration Project Plan.
- 7.3. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1595](#))
- Requesting approval of an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement between the City Council and Redevelopment Authority regarding the redevelopment of 90 Washington Street.
- 7.4. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1596](#))
- Requesting approval of the development objectives for the redevelopment of 90 Washington Street.
- 7.5. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1560](#))
- Requesting approval to create the Community Benefits Stabilization fund and accept a payment to the fund of \$3,946,742.98 from the community benefit contributions outlined in project development covenants.
- 7.6. Mayor's Request
(ID # [25-1599](#))
- Requesting approval to create a Housing Assistance Stabilization fund under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Section 5B.

- 7.7. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1600](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$1,110,000 grant with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development and Police Department for the development of the Union Square Plaza and Streetscape Phase 1.
- 7.8. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1584](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$3,000 grant with no new match required, from Somerville Cambridge Elder Services to the Council on Aging for senior transportation.
- 7.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1585](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$23,109.33 using available funds in various Department of Public Works Accounts for various services.
- 7.10. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1579](#)) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for use of an Unmanned Aircraft System at the High School.
- 7.11. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1603](#)) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Under Door Cameras.
- 7.12. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1604](#)) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Thermal Imaging Monoculars.
- 7.13. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-1605](#)) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Ball Cameras.

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 8.1. Officer's Communication (ID # [25-1587](#)) Chief Assessor requesting to appear at this Council's November 13, 2025 meeting for the Tax Classification Public Hearing and the determination and adoption of tax levy percentages for FY 2026.
- 8.2. Officer's Communication (ID # [25-1607](#)) Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development conveying a summary of the 90 Washington process review and development objectives.
- 8.3. Officer's Communication (ID # [25-1451](#)) Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management conveying the draft Combined Sewer Overflow Plan.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. Public Communication (ID # [25-1597](#)) Tufts University conveying its Fall 2025 Accountability Report.
- 9.2. Public Communication (ID # [25-1598](#)) Harvard University conveying its Fall 2025 Accountability Report.

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 10.1. Officer's Communication (ID # [25-1613](#)) City Clerk conveying Block Party Licenses issued.
- 10.2. License (ID # [25-1614](#)) New Drainlayer's License, American Site Corp.
- 10.3. License (ID # [25-1615](#)) New Drainlayer's License, Despres Landscape & Excavation.
- 10.4. Public Event (ID # [25-1616](#)) Somerville YMCA applying for a Public Event License for Community Bike Giveaway on October 26 from 2:30pm to 5pm.
- 10.5. Public Event (ID # [25-1617](#)) Office of Immigrant Affairs applying for a Public Event License for 102nd Anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye Flag Raising Ceremony on October 29 from 2:30pm to 4:30pm.
- 10.6. Public Communication (ID # [25-1618](#)) Bill Valletta submitting comments re: item #25-1557, requesting approval to create the BrickBottom Infrastructure Stabilization fund.

11. ADJOURNMENT