

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 22, 2012, 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	Absent	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Absent	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward 4 Alderman	Present	

1. #192714 Call of the Roll.
Roll Call

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

2. #192715 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, February 23, 2012.
Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED

CITATIONS

3. #192716 By Ald. Heuston, and the Entire Board and the Mayor
Citation Commending Somerville's Greek community on the occasion of Greek
Independence Day, March 25.

RESULT: APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. #192717 Grant of Location submitted by the MWRA, for a water meter cabinet across
Grant of Location the street from 65-67 Perkins St.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

5. #192718 By Ald. Roche
Order That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect 11 Kensington Avenue for violations, especially those contributing to rodent problems.

RESULT: APPROVED

6. #192719 By Ald. Roche
Resolution That this Board requests that the Administration ensure that rodent baiting for the Broadway streetscape project begin at least 30 days prior to any construction.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. #192720 By Ald. Roche
Order That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect 191 Broadway for an illegal construction and painting business, storing ladders and staging in the yard and loading trucks as early as 5:30 AM.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. #192721 By Ald. Roche
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works commence a ‘pothole patrol’ on all streets in Ward One.

RESULT: APPROVED

9. #192722 By Ald. Roche
Order That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the house at Otis and Wigglesworth Streets for excessive trash.

RESULT: APPROVED

10. #192723 By Ald. Taylor
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works install a bench on the bump-out at 252 Medford Street (Brady Towers).

RESULT: APPROVED

11. #192724 By Ald. Taylor, Lafuente, Heuston, Desmond, Sullivan
Order That the Director of SPCD (Planning) evaluate the appropriateness of the zoned height in the Union Square CBD (Washington Street to Bow Street) and report back to this Board by mid-April.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

12. #192725
Order

By Ald. Taylor, Lafuente, Heuston, O'Donovan, Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr.
That this Board's Committee on Traffic and Parking work with the Traffic Commission to conduct a Public Hearing in late April or early May, to review the recent Traffic and Parking regulations targeting the major business districts.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

13. #192726
Order

By Ald. Taylor
That the Environmental Programs Manager and the City Solicitor work with the Legislative Matters Committee to create an ordinance for recycling at fast food establishments.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

14. #192727
Resolution

By Ald. Gewirtz, Heuston, Lafuente, Roche, Taylor, Sullivan, and the Entire Board
That this Board supports H-3838, An Act Providing Housing and Support Services for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Youth Services Committee

15. #192728
Order

By Ald. Gewirtz, Trane
That the Director of Traffic and Parking provide this Board with data regarding truck traffic on Holland Street and provide an explanation if this traffic has increased.

RESULT: APPROVED

16. #192729
Resolution

By Ald. Gewirtz, Taylor, Sullivan, Trane
That this Board requests that the Administration, with this Board, consider a task force or committee to explore alternatives to WalMart, including ways to incentivize locally owned businesses.

RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE

17. #192730 Order By Ald. Trane, Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) examine Thorndike Street for any rat issues under the sidewalk.

RESULT: APPROVED

18. #192731 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect 30 Wheatland Street for building code violations, rooming house activity, and the yard being used as a debris transfer station for a contractor living in the building.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

19. #192732 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Commissioner of Public Works evaluate the removal of the coberneck light poles on Temple Street, now that the new light poles are working.

RESULT: APPROVED

20. #192733 Resolution By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That this Board requests that the Administration consider expanding WI-FI capabilities at all city parks and public areas.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Information Technology Committee

21. #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: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

22. #192735 Resolution By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That this Board requests that the Administration appear before this Board to provide updates on the former Winter Hill Star Market Land Court litigation.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

23. #192736 Resolution By Ald. White Jr., Sullivan, Lafuente
That this Board requests that the Middlesex Sheriff consider using a dedicated work crew to clean the Mystic River DCR recreational path and related park areas along the Mystic River and Route 93, from the Route 28 Bridge to Route 93 on the Somerville and Medford sides of the River.

RESULT: APPROVED

24. #192737 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That this Board's Committee on Public Health and Safety arrange for representatives of Riverside Community Care aka Somerville Mental Health Association, to appear before the Committee to explain where the programs are and how the City can assist them.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

25. #192738 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Chief of Police monitor the outlet of Warwick Street for vehicles exiting in the wrong direction.

RESULT: APPROVED

26. #192739 Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect 24 Bay State Ave. and 29 Lowden Ave. for the illegal storage of contractor trash and equipment.

RESULT: APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

27. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

- A. #192740 Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments, meeting on Committee Report March 21, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #191087 Mayor's Request Requesting the Appointment of Derek Morrison as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

- C. #191602 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Andres Calderone as Constable.

RESULT: APPROVED

- D. #192447 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Donna Leon Pierre as Constable, for a term to expire December 31, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- E. #192712 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of John O'Connor to the position of Permanent Firefighter.

RESULT: APPROVED

28. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. #192741 Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on March 21, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

Ald. Gewirtz requested that the Administration present, at the upcoming budget hearings, the utilization of the donations for youth programming that were Approved at this Committee meeting.

- B. #192261 Mayor's Request Requesting the authorization of a Consolidated Gift Account for the Council on Aging.

RESULT: APPROVED

- C. #192604 Mayor's Request Requesting the creation of a Bicycle Stabilization Fund and the acceptance of a mitigation payment of \$2,178 from Mudflat Studios, to purchase a bicycle corral.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr., Heuston, Taylor, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane

ABSENT: Bruce M. Desmond, William M. Roche, Tony Lafuente

- D. #192622 Mayor's Request Requesting the approval of the release of an obsolete drain easement in Assembly Square.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr., Heuston, Taylor, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane

ABSENT: Bruce M. Desmond, William M. Roche, Tony Lafuente

- E. #192627 Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$55,000 from the Salary Contingency Acct. to fund a non-union wage study.

RESULT: APPROVED

- F. #192666 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$375,000 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Acct. to the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr., Heuston, Taylor, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane

ABSENT: Bruce M. Desmond, William M. Roche, Tony Lafuente

- G. #192667 Mayor's Request Requesting the appropriation of \$375,000 from the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund to reconstruct roads and sidewalks.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr., Heuston, Taylor, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane

ABSENT: Bruce M. Desmond, William M. Roche, Tony Lafuente

- H. #192670 Mayor's Request Requesting authorization to increase the Council on Aging's Revolving Fund Cap for FY2012 from \$90,000 to \$130,000.

RESULT: APPROVED

- I. #192672 Mayor's Request Requesting the use of FY12 funds in the Personnel Dept. to pay Arbitrator Richard Higgins for Arbitration Services on an Fiscal Year 2011 invoice totaling \$600.

RESULT: APPROVED

- J. #192695 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a donation from Christos Poutahidis in the amount of \$10,000, for youth programming.

RESULT: APPROVED

- K. #192696 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$10,000 from D&R General Contracting, for community initiatives.

RESULT: APPROVED

- L. #192697 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$10,000 from MetroPCS for youth programming and other community events.

RESULT: APPROVED

- M. #192698 Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$1,000 from Robert B. King, local Mayor's Request McDonalds owner-operator, for youth activities and community events.

RESULT: APPROVED

- N. #192742 By Ald. Trane
Order That the Chief Financial Officer provide the Committee on Finance with further clarification of how the City receives appropriations of funds for acceptance into the City's General fund.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

29. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. #192743 Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on March 12, 2012.
Committee Report

RESULT: APPROVED

30. LAND USE AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEES

- A. #192744 Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting in Joint Session with the
Committee Report Committee on Legislative Matters, on March 21, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #192745 Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting in Joint Session
Committee Report with the Committee on Land Use, on March 21, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

31. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. #192746 Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on
Committee Report March 19, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #190308 By Ald. Desmond, O'Donovan
Order That the Director of Traffic and Parking replace or secure the traffic signs at 204 Cedar Street that face traffic exiting from Clyde Street as they pose a potential safety hazard to pedestrians.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #192046 Order By Ald. Trane
That the Director of SPCD dispatch the Neighborhood Inspection Team to 113-115 Hillsdale Road to examine the property for code violations.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #192057 Order By Ald. Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Director of Health appear before the Public Health and Safety Committee to provide an update on the proposed Municipal Domestic Violence Policy.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. #192465 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) and the City Solicitor direct the owner of 34 Glenwood Road to take appropriate measures to rectify any conditions that might pose a safety hazard to the surrounding neighborhood.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

32. #192747 Mayor's Request Requesting the dedication of 15-25 Cross Street East in perpetuity for park and recreation purposes.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr., Heuston, Taylor, O'Donovan, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Bruce M. Desmond, William M. Roche, Tony Lafuente

33. #192748 Mayor's Request Requesting the appropriation of \$375,000 to the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

34. #192749 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$11,600 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to replace furniture in the Aldermanic Chambers and in the Aldermen's Committee Room.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

35. #192750 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to transfer \$59,500 from the DPW Snow Acct. to the DPW Buildings and Grounds Roof Repair and Maintenance Acct., for repairs to the East Branch Library Roof.

RESULT: APPROVED

36. #192751 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to transfer \$36,086 from the DPW Snow Acct. to The Buildings and Grounds Elevator Repair and Maintenance Acct., to repair the elevator at the Central Library.

RESULT: APPROVED

37. #192752 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to transfer \$35,000 from the DPW Snow Acct. to the Buildings and Grounds Equipment Acct., to purchase a lawnmower.

RESULT: APPROVED

38. #192753 Mayor's Request Requesting the transfer of \$9,600 from the DPW Snow Acct. to the DPW Administration Hazardous Waste Removal Acct., for the removal of the underground storage tank at the Public Safety Building.

RESULT: APPROVED

39. #192754 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a \$2,000 grant from the Dept. of Public Health for the Fire Dept.'s Mass Decontamination Unit.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

40. #192755 Mayor's Request Requesting approval for the DPW to pay a prior-year invoice of \$131.25 from Signet, for clock/PA system maintenance.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

41. #192756 Mayor's Request Requesting to declare as surplus equipment some unused parking meter housings and parking meter mechanisms in the Traffic and Parking Dept.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

42. #192757 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Joseph Cerqueira as Alternate Member of the Planning Board.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

43. #192758 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Heather MacIndoe to the Women's Commission.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

44. #192759 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Marie McBride to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

45. #192760 Officer's Communication City Treasurer/Tax Collector submitting his Treasurer and Tax Collector Public Official Bonds.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

NEW BUSINESS

46. #192761 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Emerson College Student Film Shoot, Lexington Park Playground and Bike Path and 32 Clifton St., Mar 23-24, 8AM-5PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

47. #192762 License/Permit Public Event Permit, DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum Exhibit, Davis Sq. Plaza, Apr 6, 9:30AM-3:30PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

48. #192763 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Russell Rd. Block Party, May 20, 10AM-11PM.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

49. #192764 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Swirl and Slice Union Sq. Gourmet Market, Union Sq. Plaza, Every Other Thursday, Jun 14-Sep 20, 4-9PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

50. #192765 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Day of Portugal Parade, Praca Portuguesa at Concord Sq., Jun 17, 12-4PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

51. #192766 License/Permit Public Event Permit, "Drag Race for a Cure" 100-Yard Race, Bike Path from Cedar St. to Grove St., Oct 20, 2-3PM.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

52. #192767 License/Permit Sign/Awning Permit, Ace Wheelworks, Sign.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

53. #192768 Public Communication NStar Electric updating this Board on providing the DPW access to NStar's double pole tracking system.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

LATE ITEMS

54. #192769 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to transfer \$21,600 from the DPW Snow Acct. to the DPW Buildings and Grounds Interior Building Repair Acct., for pipe removal and rug replacement.

RESULT: APPROVED

55. #192770 License/Permit Public Event Permit, St. Benedict's Good Friday Procession, St. Benedict School and Parish area, Apr 6, 5:30-7PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk