



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## City Council

### Regular Meeting Agenda

---

Thursday, April 25, 2024

7:00 PM

City Council Chamber and Remote  
Participation

---

Published April 23, 2024, 2:45 PM, Revised April 25, 2024, 10:55 AM.

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, 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.

Register at the following website to listen to this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-16MX2lITluzAqokjIgfCA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-16MX2lITluzAqokjIgfCA)

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e. CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact Adrienne Pomeroy in advance, at 617-625-6600 x2059 or [ada@somervillema.gov](mailto:ada@somervillema.gov).

#### 1. OPENING CEREMONIES

- 1.1. Roll Call                      Call of the Roll.  
(ID # [24-0604](#))
- 1.2. Remembrances              Remembrances.  
(ID # [24-0605](#))
- 1.3. Minutes                        Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
(ID # [24-0606](#))                      March 28, 2024.

#### 2. CITATIONS

#### 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 3.1. Grant of Location              Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install 10  
(ID # [24-0552](#))                      feet of conduit in Quincy Street, from Utility Pole 296/6  
to a point of pickup at 30 Quincy Street.

**4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS**

- 4.1. Resolution By Councilor Clingan  
(ID # [24-0583](#)) In support of An Act Relative to the Future of Clean Heat in the Commonwealth and An Act Establishing a Moratorium on New Gas System Expansion.
- 4.2. Resolution By Councilor Strezo  
(ID # [24-0584](#)) In support of The I AM bill: An Act to Increase Access to Disposable Menstrual Products in Prisons, Homeless Shelters and Public Schools.
- 4.3. Resolution By Councilor Burnley Jr.  
(ID # [24-0585](#)) In support of increased safety for sex workers.
- 4.4. Resolution By Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # [24-0586](#)) That the Administration utilize American Rescue Plan Act money to address excessive water bills for residents.
- 4.5. Resolution By Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # [24-0587](#)) That the Administration develop a program to recruit and train Somerville High School students to become firefighters and police officers in Somerville.

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 5.1. Mayor's Communication Conveying an update on Police and Fire hiring.  
(ID # [24-0455](#))

**6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES****6.A. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 6.A.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on April  
(ID # [24-0568](#)) 23, 2024.
- 6.A.2. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to appropriate \$302,720 from the  
(ID # [24-0412](#)) Energy Stabilization Fund to use as a Green Communities grant match to fund energy improvements for 42 Cross Street.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.3. Mayor's Request Requesting authorization to borrow \$7,310,000 in a  
(ID # [24-0476](#)) bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the FY 2024 Water Main Rehabilitation program as part of the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority's Local Water System Assistance Program.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.A.4. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0485](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$108,373.07 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Natural Gas Account for natural gas expenses.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.5. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0486](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$307.97 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Admin Postage Machine Rental Account for postage machine lease expenses.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.6. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0487](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$3,780 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Rental Buildings Account for the lease of conduit to carry Fire Alarm equipment.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.7. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0488](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$224.67 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Bituminous Supplies Account for the purchase of asphalt.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.8. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0489](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$493.08 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Fleet Motor Parts and Accessories Account for vehicle repair parts.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.9. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0490](#)) Requesting approval to enter into an 84- and 89-month contract renewal term with Big Belly for existing equipment and deliverables, and enter into a new 96-month contract term with Big Belly for new units.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.10. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0492](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$42,500 from the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) Housing Personal Services Account to the OSPCD Public Space and Urban Forestry Personal Services Account to cover a projected year-end salary deficit.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.A.11. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0495](#)) Requesting authorization to borrow \$1,800,000 in a bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the annual recurring FY 2024 Sewer System Evaluation & Infiltration/Inflow Assessment.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.12. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0540](#)) Requesting approval of a pedestrian access easement on Charlestown Place, approval of a grant of easements over certain alleys located in the D2.2 parcel, and approval of a grant of license from the City to Union Square RELP.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.13. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0541](#)) Requesting approval of the Conveyance and Easement for Parcel D2.2 (Union Square) Civic Space Lot 2A.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B. OPEN SPACE, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEE**
- 6.B.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0567](#)) Report of the Committee on Open Space, Environment and Energy, meeting on April 18, 2024.
- 6.B.2. Order (ID # [24-0091](#)) By Councilor Mbah and Councilor Burnley Jr.  
That the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry report to this Council's Committee on Open Space, Environment and Energy on the status of the parks and open spaces that have been completed or are under construction and planning as part of redevelopment projects.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.B.3. Order (ID # [24-0472](#)) By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Scott  
That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Council on the condition of Conway Field and the displacement of infill that is occurring there during extreme rainfall events, as well as the schedule for regular grooming and maintenance of the City's artificial turf athletic fields.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**
- 6.C.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0566](#)) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on April 17, 2024.

- 6.C.2. Order  
(ID # [24-0093](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor regarding any fines associated with 24-28 Broadway, the former Taco Loco site, due to repeated cleanliness and business violations within the last two years.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.3. Order  
(ID # [24-0094](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor regarding any fines associated with 112 Broadway, formerly the East End Grill, for any violations within the last ten years.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.4. Order  
(ID # [24-0095](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor regarding any fines associated with 176-182 Broadway, formerly Patsy's Pastries, in the last ten years.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.5. Order  
(ID # [24-0096](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services inspect 112 Broadway, 176-182 Broadway, and 24-28 Broadway for violations and report the findings to the Ward 1 City Councilor.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.6. Order  
(ID # [24-0097](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services address trash and other violations by the Rent-A-Center on Broadway.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.7. Resolution  
(ID # [24-0371](#))
- By Councilor Burnley Jr.  
That the Administration update this Council on plans for the \$244,891.15 received as part of the Massachusetts Municipal Opioid Abatement Payments.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

- 6.C.8. Order  
(ID # [24-0384](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services inspect 112 Broadway, 176-182 Broadway, and 24-28 Broadway for violations and report the findings to the Ward 1 City Councilor.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.9. Order  
(ID # [24-0385](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor regarding any fines associated with 176-182 Broadway, formerly Patsy's Pastries, in the last ten years.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.10. Order  
(ID # [24-0386](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor regarding any fines associated with 112 Broadway, formerly the East End Grill, for any violations within the last ten years.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.11. Order  
(ID # [24-0387](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor regarding any fines associated with 24-28 Broadway, the former Taco Loco site, due to repeated cleanliness and business violations within the last two years.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.12. Order  
(ID # [24-0388](#))
- By Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Davis, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Scott, Councilor Pineda Neufeld and Councilor Sait  
That the Director of Inspectional Services appears before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss implementation of the Vacant Properties Ordinance, and provide the Ward 1 Councilor with a list of registered properties, the dates they were registered and any fees and fines associated with the properties.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

- 6.C.13. Order  
(ID # [24-0389](#))  
By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss the department's methods of reporting, inputting and organizing fines within their databases.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.14. Order  
(ID # [24-0417](#))  
By Councilor Strezo  
That the Executive Director of the Arts Council appear before the Housing and Community Development Committee to present a Porchfest safety plan that addresses pedestrian safety concerns, promotion of street closures, intersection crossing safety and the prevention of aggressive and dangerous driver behavior during the active event hours.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.15. Order  
(ID # [24-0429](#))  
By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 City Councilor on the recent collapse of a house at 16 Bonair Street.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.16. Order  
(ID # [24-0430](#))  
By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 City Councilor on the status of any permits issued to contractors associated with 16 Bonair Street.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.
- 6.C.17. Order  
(ID # [24-0469](#))  
By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson  
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor on enforcement of the Dark Skies Ordinance.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0551](#))  
Requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance to add Section 8.5 Interim Planning Overlay District (IPOD) and the Brickbottom sub-area.

- 
- 7.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0577](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$2,041,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Facility Renovation and Reconstruction Stabilization Fund for continued renovations to the Edgerly School to accommodate Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms for the Winter Hill Community Innovation School students.
- 7.3. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0579](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$400,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Emergency Response Stabilization Fund to provide temporary shelter, food, and other common necessities of life to displaced individuals and families.
- 7.4. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0574](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$248,111 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Department of Public Works Buildings Natural Gas Account for the remediation of an expected year end deficit.
- 7.5. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0572](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$237,468 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Department of Public Works Buildings Interior Building Maintenance Account for repairs to the Dilboy Pool.
- 7.6. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0576](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$150,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Facility Renovation and Reconstruction Stabilization Fund for building improvements at 77 Broadway for the East Somerville Police sub-station.
- 7.7. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0578](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$2,041,000 from the Facility Renovation and Reconstruction Stabilization Fund for continued renovations to the Edgerly School to accommodate Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms for the Winter Hill Community Innovation School students.
- 7.8. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0580](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$400,000 from the Emergency Stabilization Fund to support critical emergency shelter services.
- 7.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0573](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$1,095,000 from various Department of Public Works personal services accounts to the Department of Public Works Buildings Electricity Account to cover a deficit.

- 7.10. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0564](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$13,800 from the Police Salaries Account to the Police Special Items Rental Buildings Account to pay the remaining East Substation lease payments for FY 2024.
- 7.11. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0575](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$243,094 grant with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center to the Office of Sustainability and Environment, for a residential decarbonization outreach campaign and two-year Energy Advisor position.
- 7.12. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0581](#)) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Alyssa DuBois to the Board of Health.
- 7.13. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0582](#)) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Margaret H. Coit to the Board of Health.

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. License (ID # [24-0553](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Caruso & McGovern Construction Inc.
- 9.2. License (ID # [24-0554](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Edward Ahern.
- 9.3. License (ID # [24-0555](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, JNJ Sacca Inc.
- 9.4. License (ID # [24-0556](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, LaMountain Brothers Inc.
- 9.5. License (ID # [24-0557](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, New England Style Inc.
- 9.6. License (ID # [24-0558](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, P. Gioioso & Sons Inc.
- 9.7. License (ID # [24-0559](#)) Renewing Garage License, Greentown Labs, 444 Somerville Ave.
- 9.8. License (ID # [24-0560](#)) Renewing Garage License, K Professional Auto Detailing, 682 Mystic Ave.
- 9.9. License (ID # [24-0561](#)) Renewing Garage License, Teele Square Auto, 1284 Broadway.

- 
- 9.10. License (ID # [24-0562](#)) Renewing Second Hand Dealer License, Buffalo Exchange Ltd, 238 Elm St.
- 9.11. License (ID # [24-0563](#)) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Michael H. Garvey, Med. #57.
- 9.12. License (ID # [24-0588](#)) New Outdoor Parking License, John's Auto Sales, 216 McGrath Hwy, store 23 vehicles on premises.
- 9.13. License (ID # [24-0589](#)) New Sign and Awning License, Toca Chida, 333 Great River Rd, 3 awnings.
- 9.14. Public Event (ID # [24-0590](#)) Friends of the Community Growing Center applying for a Public Event License for Somerville Community Growing Center 2024 Event Calendar on May through December from various times.
- 9.15. Public Event (ID # [24-0591](#)) Somerville Open Studios applying for a Public Event License for Open Studios informational table on May 4 and 5 from 11:30am to 6:30pm.
- 9.16. Public Event (ID # [24-0593](#)) Jason Oberstein applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest for Flying Turtle on May 11 from 11am to 3pm (raindate May 12).
- 9.17. Public Event (ID # [24-0595](#)) Jonathan Bernhardt applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Charnwood on May 11 from 1pm to 4pm (raindate May 12).
- 9.18. Public Event (ID # [24-0596](#)) Nate Kaufman applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Highland Rd on May 11 from 1pm to 5pm (raindate May 12).
- 9.19. Public Event (ID # [24-0592](#)) Dave Rothfarb applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Aberdeen on May 11 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm (raindate May 12).
- 9.20. Public Event (ID # [24-0594](#)) Liz Hewitt applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Craigie on May 11 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm (raindate May 12).
- 9.21. Public Event (ID # [24-0597](#)) Jeff Kaufman applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Morrison on May 11 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm (raindate May 12).
- 9.22. Public Event (ID # [24-0599](#)) Nels Nelson applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Munroe on May 11 from 3pm to 7pm (raindate May 12).
-

- 9.23. Public Event  
(ID # [24-0598](#)) Claire Crowther applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Morgan on May 11 from 3:30pm to 6pm (raindate May 12).
- 9.24. Public Event  
(ID # [24-0600](#)) Alexandra Weiner applying for a Public Event License for Calvin Street BP on May 25 from 10am to 8pm (raindate May 26).
- 9.25. Public Event  
(ID # [24-0602](#)) Veterans Department applying for a Public Event License for Memorial Day Parade on May 26 from 8am to 3pm.
- 9.26. Public Event  
(ID # [24-0603](#)) Maria M. Carreiro-Luis applying for a Public Event License for Ermandade do Devino Espirito Santo on May 26 from 9am to 3pm.
- 9.27. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [24-0601](#)) Somerville Community Corporation nominating Gonzalo J. Puigbo to the Wage Theft Advisory Committee.

## 10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 10.1. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0565](#)) Requesting approval of a Pedestrian Access Sidewalk Easement and Maintenance License at 599 Somerville Avenue.
- 10.2. License  
(ID # [24-0608](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, CRL Inc.
- 10.3. License  
(ID # [24-0609](#)) New Extended Operating Hours License, Eat Greek Gyros, 215 Elm St, for in-store, take-out, and delivery services until 2am.
- 10.4. License  
(ID # [24-0610](#)) Renewing Garage License, FRIT, 355 Artisan Way.
- 10.5. License  
(ID # [24-0611](#)) Renewing Garage License, FRIT, 445 Artisan Way.
- 10.6. License  
(ID # [24-0612](#)) Renewing Garage License, FRIT, 479 Canal St.
- 10.7. License  
(ID # [24-0613](#)) Renewing Garage License, FRIT, 455 Grand Union Blvd.
- 10.8. License  
(ID # [24-0614](#)) Renewing Garage License, FRIT, 333 Great River Rd.

- 10.9. Public Event  
(ID # [24-0616](#)) Gary Rowe applying for a Public Event License for Porchfest on Bailey on May 11 from 11:30am to 2:30pm (raindate May 12).
- 10.10. Public Event  
(ID # [24-0615](#)) Toriah Mimms applying for a Public Event License for The Curl Bar BP on May 26 from 8am to 8pm (raindate June 8).
- 10.11. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [24-0607](#)) Mo Rizkallah requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 5 Homer Square from Neighborhood Residence (NR) to Urban Residence (UR).

**11. ADJOURNMENT**