



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

### Meeting Minutes Dispositions

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**Monday, October 2, 2023**

**6:00 PM**

**Virtual**

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This meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order by Chair Clingan at 6:00 p.m. and adjourned at 6:57 p.m. on a Roll Call Vote: 3 in favor (Councilors Kelly, Gomez Mouakad, Clingan), 0 opposed, 0 absent.

Others present:

Michael Potere – Assistant Clerk of Committees; Hannah Carrillo – Legislative Liaison; Demetrios Vidalis – Director of Water and Sewer; Brian Postlewaite – Director of Engineering; Jake Wilson – At-Large City Councilor.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** Chairperson Jesse Clingan, Vice Chair Beatriz Gomez Mouakad and Charlotte Kelly

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Public Utilities and Public Works Committee Meeting of May 8, 2023. [23-0733](#)

Accepted

**Aye:** Chairperson Clingan, Vice Chair Gomez Mouakad and City Councilor At Large Kelly

2. That the Administration report to this Council on the ability to require further repairs on Highland Ave, and if none, an explanation on whether that complies with road engineering regulations. [23-1399](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Davis

Kept in committee

3. That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management update this Council on the sewer separation work and any opportunities for prioritizing problematic areas of the city. [23-1397](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Wilson and Councilor Pineda Neufeld

Kept in committee

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4. That the Director of Water and Sewer and the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management explain what maintenance will be required for the new Poplar Street Pump Station and Spring Hill Sewer Separation Project, and how these maintenance requirements will be staffed to ensure their proper upkeep. [23-1183](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Gomez Mouakad
- Kept in committee
5. That the Director of Engineering re-pave Highland Avenue from Central Street to Walnut Street this year instead of waiting until 2024. [23-1355](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wilson
- Kept in committee
6. That the Director of Engineering utilize the partial paving program to address streets in East Somerville that have private trench restoration, to ensure half-paved streets are fully paved. [23-0997](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin
- Recommended to be marked work completed
7. That the Director of Engineering update the Ward 1 Councilor regarding the pavement of Otis Street, which is half completed on one side. [23-0888](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin
- Recommended to be marked work completed
8. That the Director of Engineering, the Director of Water and Sewer, and the Executive Director of the Arts Council collaborate to start an "Adopt a Catch Basin" program to promote visibility and cleanliness of catch basins in creative and artistic ways. [23-0885](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin
- Recommended to be marked work completed
9. That the Director of Engineering and the Superintendent of Water and Sewer appear before this Council's Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works to discuss the notification protocols for street work and water shutoffs. [23-0055](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Clingan
- Recommended to be marked work completed
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10. That the Director of Mobility repaint the NO BIKES ON SIDEWALKS signs along East Broadway. [23-0892](#)  
**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed
11. That the Director of Mobility install speed bumps on Myrtle Street, Lincoln Avenue and Virginia Street. [23-0887](#)  
**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Wilson and Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
12. That the Commissioner of Public Works raise the low-hanging wires in front of 50 Chandler Street so that they do not get snagged on cars. [23-1363](#)  
**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
13. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove or raise above human height, the low hanging wire in front of 11 Bonair Street, and report to this City Council who owns the pole. [23-0996](#)  
**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo and Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed
14. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove or raise above human height, the wire wrapped around a street sign in front of 9 Brastow Avenue, and report back to this City Council who owns the pole. [23-0884](#)  
**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
15. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove or raise above human height, the wire wrapped around a pole in front of 54 Porter Street, and report back to this City Council who owns the pole. [23-0883](#)  
**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
16. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove, or raise above human height, the wire wrapped around a pole at 336 Washington Street, and report to this City Council who owns the pole. [23-0783](#)  
**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
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17. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove, or raise above human height, the dangling wires in front of 143 Hudson Street, and report to this City Council who owns the poles. [23-0788](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
18. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove, or raise above human height, the dangling wires in front of 43 Hudson Street, and report to this City Council who owns the poles. [23-0789](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
19. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove, or raise above human height, the dangling wire tied to a street sign in front of 88 Foskett Street, and report to this City Council who owns the pole. [23-0780](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo  
Recommended to be marked work completed
20. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove, or raise to a safe height, the cables attached to a utility pole at 54 Ten Hills Road, and report to this City Council who owns the pole. [23-0524](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo and Councilor Clingan  
Recommended to be marked work completed
21. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove or raise above human reach, the overhead wires tied to a porch railing at 76 Curtis Street, and report back to this City Council who is responsible for the wires. [23-0525](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo and Councilor Pineda Neufeld  
Recommended to be marked work completed
22. That the Commissioner of Public Works immediately remove, or raise to a safe height, the cables attached to a pole at the intersection of Harvard and Monmouth Streets, and report to the City Council who owns the pole. [23-0328](#)
- Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo and Councilor Ewen-Campen  
Recommended to be marked work completed
23. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove or relocate the wires tied around a pole in front of 21 Properzi Way, and report to this City Council who owns the poles. [23-0790](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

24. That the Commissioner of Public Works remove, or move to a safer location, the heavy cables tied to wires and suspended above the sidewalk in front of 67-69 Merriam Street, and report to this City Council who owns the poles. [23-0787](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

25. That the Commissioner of Public Works appear before this Council to discuss what actions have and can be taken to ensure that trash and recycling barrels do not obstruct sidewalks after pick-up. [23-1187](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Burnley Jr.

Kept in committee

26. That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management report on recent air conditioning failures in City Hall and what repairs have been or will be completed to address those issues. [23-1184](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Gomez Mouakad

Kept in committee

27. That the Commissioner of Public Works inspect the tree wells in front of 173 Broadway for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). [23-0891](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin

Kept in committee

28. That the Commissioner of Public Works fill the potholes on the unfinished side of Otis Street. [23-0889](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin

Recommended to be marked work completed

29. That the Commissioner of Public Works report on leaks and building system failures that have caused the shutdown of municipal buildings, excluding school buildings, in the last five years. [23-0610](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Gomez Mouakad and Councilor Wilson

Kept in committee

Referenced Documents:

- PUPW - 2023-10-02 Water interruption notice 2023 (with 23-0055)
- PUPW - 2023-10-02 Water Shutdown Process (with 23-0055)