



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes Dispositions

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

6:00 PM

Virtual

The meeting took place remotely via Zoom and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Wilson and adjourned at 7:29 PM on a roll call vote of 4 in favor (Councilors Burnley, Clingan, Scott and Wilson), none against and 1 absent (Councilor Mbah).

Others present:

Senior Accountant Alan Inacio – Planning, Director Rich Raiche - Infrastructure and Asset Management, Catherine Lester Salchert – Special Counsel, Director Emily Wisdom – SPD Finance and Administration, Yasmine Raddassi – Legislative Liaison, Peter Forcellese – Legislative Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: City Councilor At Large Jake Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Jesse Clingan and City Councilor At Large Willie Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Wilfred N. Mbah

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of April 8, 2025. [25-0758](#)

Accepted

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

Prior Year Invoices

2. Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$12,430.19 using available funds in the Police Department In Service Training, Professional & Technical Services, Repairs to Radio Alarm, and Public Safety Supplies accounts. [25-0686](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

Grant & Gift Acceptances

3. Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$35,300 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for upgrades to the Emergency Operation Center. [25-0674](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

4. Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$61,301.89 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for replacement of cameras. [25-0683](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

Contracts & Easements

5. Requesting approval of a Deed, Maintenance License, and Maintenance Easement for 808 Windsor Street. [25-0523](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

6. City Solicitor requesting approval to retain Verrill Dana, LLP, as outside legal counsel with respect to Combined Sewer Overflow Control matters. [25-0824](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

Funds & Accounts

7. Requesting approval to create the Chestnut Street Multimodal Safety Stabilization Fund and accept a payment of \$99,127 from the developer of 100 Chestnut Street to implement multimodal safety and access improvements. [25-0524](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

Transfers

8. Requesting the transfer of \$55,631 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Undesignated Fund Balance to the CPA Open Space Reserve. [25-0398](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

Appropriations

9. Requesting the appropriation of \$300,000 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund to the CPA Open Space Land Acquisition Fund. [25-0652](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

10. Requesting the appropriation of \$100,000 from the Community Preservation Act Budgeted Reserve and Open Space Reserve for improvements to Dilboy Auxiliary Fields. [25-0399](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

11. Requesting the appropriation of \$1,468,693 from the Community Preservation Act Affordable Housing Reserve to the Affordable Housing Trust. [25-0651](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

Absent: City Councilor At Large Mbah

Orders and Resolutions

12. That the Chief of Police present to this Council the financial implications of the Public Safety for All recommendations, specifically the costs to fund additional officers, acquire and utilize body cameras, and implement a co-response model. [25-0254](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Burnley Jr.

Kept in committee

13. That the Director of Housing include a line item contribution to the Affordable Housing Trust's FY 2026 ordinary maintenance budget in order to sustain its funding for affordable housing development and assistance to households facing rent or mortgage arrears.

[25-0568](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Mbah

Kept in committee

14. That the Director of Housing Stability calculate and present a budget proposal for sufficient funding that will enable it to continue its programs of municipal flex funding, legal assistance and related housing search services for residents facing displacement and homeless families and individuals in FY 2026.

[25-0569](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Mbah

Kept in committee

15. That the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment clarify the situation regarding the federal grant application for composting and, depending on its likely fulfillment, calculate a budget line item to insure that the small-scale pilot program can continue into FY 2026 and expand to more households.

[25-0570](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Mbah

Kept in committee

16. That the Chief Assessor and the City Treasurer discuss with this Council the issue of residents not receiving initial motor vehicle excise tax bills, resulting in demand fees.

[25-0745](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Wilson and Councilor Ewen-Campen

Recommended to be marked work completed

Referenced Documents:

- Finance - 2025-05-06 Memo (with 25-0568)
- Finance - 2025-05-06 Memo (with 25-0569)
- Finance - 2025-05-06 Memo (with 25-0570)
- Finance - 2025-05-06 Memo (with 25-0745)
- Finance - 2025-05-06 Motor Vehicle Excise Manual (with 25-0745)