

Deborah Howitt Easton  
[REDACTED]

August 21, 2020

planning@somervillema.gov  
Planning Board  
City of Somerville  
93 Highland Avenue  
Somerville MA 02143

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my interest in the posted position for a new member of the City's Planning Board.

Over the past 18 years my husband and I have been raising our three children here in Somerville. I am an active participant in a wide variety of civic, non profit and youth organizations and desire to continue to contribute in a concrete way to the future of Somerville and the promise of SomerVision.

My professional background is well suited for this particular board position. I have been a lawyer for 25 years. The bulk of that practice was in private law firms with an exclusive focus on commercial real estate during my last 15 years of private practice. More recently I have been assistant general counsel to an energy services company that provides comprehensive energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions for facilities throughout North America and the United Kingdom. My relevant legal experience and dedication and enthusiasm for this City will be an asset to the Board.

I am excited about the opportunity to bring my skills, civic experiences, and education to this position, and would greatly appreciate the chance to further discuss my candidacy. I can be reached at [REDACTED] Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Deborah Howitt Easton

## DEBORAH HOWITT EASTON



### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### **Ameresco, Inc., Framingham**

##### **Assistant General Counsel, July 2017-Present**

Provides all manner of legal counsel to a publicly traded energy services company that provides comprehensive energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions for facilities throughout North America and the United Kingdom.

#### **Sherin and Lodgen LLP, Boston**

##### **Partner, 2005 – June 2017, Associate, 2000-2004**

Member of law firm commercial real estate group representing developers, sellers, buyers, landlords, tenants, hotel owners, corporate real estate departments and financial institutions in connection with all aspects of commercial real estate transactions including leasing, acquisitions, sales, financing and development of commercial property. Extensive experience acquiring and disposing of commercial property, leasing of office buildings, laboratory facilities and retail properties and oversight and participation in multiple due diligence reviews for sophisticated large scale real estate and corporate transactions. LEED Accredited Professional, 2008.

#### **Murphy, MacKenzie, Michaels & Sullivan LLP, Boston, Associate, 1999-2000**

Significant experience in broad-based transactional practice. Participated in commercial and corporate transactions as part of a general corporate practice and engaged in a variety of commercial real estate transactions including negotiating and drafting purchase and sale agreements, leases, lease estoppel agreements, and settlement documents.

#### **Ronald H. Sinzheimer, Esq., P.C., Albany, N.Y., Associate, 1995-1999**

Negotiated and drafted asset purchase agreements and related acquisition documents, handled commercial and residential real estate closings and drafted and argued motions and appeals as part of a general legal practice specializing in business litigation, environmental law, corporate transactions and real estate. Oversaw wind down of the practice after the death of principal partner.

### PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- “Landlord-Tenant Forum”, green lease discussion group moderator, A Better City, April, 2017
- “Anatomy of a Sustainable Real Estate Project”, speaker, Suffolk University Sawyer Business School Center for Real Estate, October, 2014
- “Green Lease Forum”, speaker, jointly sponsored by Boston Bar Association the City of Boston, A Better City (ABC), and the D.C.-based Institute for Market Transformation, May 2014
- 10 Highlights of "An Act Promoting the Planning and Development of Sustainable Communities", Breaking Ground: Sherin and Lodgen LLP Blog, July 23, 2013
- 5 Key Issues in Biotech Leasing, Breaking Ground: Sherin and Lodgen LLP Blog, April 25, 2012
- “Leasing in Troubled Times: Protecting Your Build-Out”, *The Real Reporter*, February 24, 2012
- “Sustainability Roundtable,” speaker, International Facility Management Association, June 2010
- “Tenant Exit Strategies-Planning Ahead for a Way Out”, *Commercial Leasing Law and Strategy*, Vol. 17, No. 4, September 2004

### EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Board Member, Hillel Council of New England

Graduate of inaugural class from the Somerville Academy for Innovative Leadership program

Former member of Arts at the Armory Advisory Committee

Pro Bono legal volunteer for Kids In Need of Defense

Frequent volunteer at Somerville Public Schools

University of Michigan, B.A. 1991; Albany Law School of Union University, J.D. 1994