

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

January 9, 2014, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.

2. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
November 26, 2013.

CITATIONS

3. Citation By Ald. Sullivan, and the Entire Board and the Mayor
Commending Nicholas Stiles, who is retiring after 40
years of dedicated service as a Police Officer.

4. Citation By Ald. Sullivan, and the Entire Board and the Mayor
Commending the St. Clements Football Team, which
finished first in the Catholic Central Small League with
an undefeated record, and won the Division 6 North
Championship trophy.

5. Citation By Ald. Sullivan, and the Entire Board and the Mayor
Commending John Richard, a senior at Arlington
Catholic High School, who was named to the Boston
Globe All-Scholastic Team for 2013.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. Grant of Location Submitted by Tufts University, to install about 650 feet
of overhead cable on Sawyer Avenue and about 839
feet of overhead cable on Packard Avenue, with
connections to several Tufts-owned buildings.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

7. Order By Ald. Rossetti

That the Director of Traffic and Parking provide this
Board with a report on the number of tickets issued, and
the resulting revenue, during a typical snow storm and
its impact, i.e., the effectiveness of those penalties
during the next storm.

8. Order By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of Traffic and Parking increase enforcement of parking regulations by the driveways to 301 and 303 Lowell Street for two weeks to improve access and egress for residents and report the results to the Ward 5 Alderman.
9. Order By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of Traffic and Parking report to the Ward 5 Alderman on the feasibility of restoring two parking spaces in front of 179 Albion Street that were changed to NO PARKING spaces following the repaving of the street.
10. Order By Ald. Sullivan, McLaughlin, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a NO PARKING sign at the garage entrance between the two driveways of 240 Pearl Street.
11. Order By Ald. Sullivan, Lafuente, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
That the Director of Traffic and Parking contact Mass Highway to install the proper traffic signals at the intersection of Route 28 and Mystic Avenue.
12. Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the depressions and potholes on College Avenue between Morrison Avenue and the Powderhouse Rotary.
13. Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the pothole at the intersection of Appleton and Clifton Streets.
14. Order By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board amend the Rules of the Board, to eliminate the Information Technology Committee as a Standing Committee.
15. Order By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board amend the Rules of this Board, to establish a procedure for maintaining the minutes and reports of this Board and its committees.
16. Communication By Ald. White Jr.
In his capacity as President, submitting this Board's Committee assignments for 2014 and creating four Special Committees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

17. Citation By Ald. The Entire Board
Commending outgoing Alderman Thomas F. Taylor for his outstanding service to the people of Ward Three and the entire City as Alderman, from 1986 to 2013, making him the longest-serving Ward Alderman in the City's history.
18. Committee Report Severed portion of the Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on November 19, 2013 (#195235 was the only item severed and laid on the table).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

19. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on December 19, 2013.
- B. Order By Ald. Heuston, Taylor, White Jr., O'Donovan, Lafuente, Connolly
That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Traffic and Parking provide this Board with recommendations to address the traffic and parking concerns of business owners on Somerville Avenue, especially within the 400-700 blocks.
- C. Resolution By Ald. Sullivan
That this Board requests that the Administration consider a program to allow dog owners and dogs to enjoy off-leash play and exercise time in certain city parks at designated times.
- D. Public Communication Michele Biscoe submitting comments re: #194410, considering designated off-leash times for dogs in certain parks.
- E. Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of SPCD (ISD), the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer appear before this Board to discuss the process of fining absentee landlords and/or their unruly tenants as it relates to repeat offenders.

- F. Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) provide this Board with an analysis of the Cabot Farms building on Broadway, at the Powderhouse Rotary, and a list of strategies the city can employ to urge improvement of the property.
- G. Resolution By Ald. Heuston
That the Administration consider implementing a pilot Parklet in the Brickbottom area of Ward 2.
- H. Order By Ald. Taylor
That the Director of SPCD remove the bike rack at the corner of Highland Avenue and Crocker Street and either find an alternative site or replace it with a smaller rack.
- I. Order By Ald. Lafuente
That the Chief Assessor develop a list of all absentee landlord property locations in Ward 4.
- J. Order By Ald. Lafuente
That the City Solicitor inform this Board of the fee structure of fines on absentee landlord property violations and how they can be increased.
- K. Order By Ald. Bastardi
That the Community Liaison for the East Broadway Streetscape Project notify all residents and businesses prior to sidewalk replacement, and have the contractor provide proper access to all driveways.
- L. Resolution By Ald. Bastardi
That the Administration begin steps to acquire the parcel of land at the intersection of Austin Street and Maine Terrace in hopes that it will become a green space.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

20. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to declare as surplus certain IT Department Telephony Equipment.
21. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of an \$18,000 grant from the Metro Regional Employment Board to the YouthWorks Program.
22. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$7,086 from the MA Fire Services Dept., for the Fire Dept.'s school education program.

- 23. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$4,750 from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development for participation in the Massachusetts Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Count
- 24. Mayor's Request Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$3,418 from the MA Fire Services Dept., for the Fire Dept.'s senior fire safety program.
- 25. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Harold Curtis Jr., as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 26. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Shawn Brady, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 27. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee, Sean Browne, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 28. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee, Michael Cabral, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 29. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee, Jose Colon, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 30. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee, Michael DeBethencourt, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 31. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee, Michael Eastman, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 32. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee, Wayne Gabaree, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.
- 33. Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee, James Lawson, as a Special Police Officer for 2014.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 34. Officer's Communication Assistant City Solicitor responding to #195788 re: state and local requirements prior to establishment of medical marijuana facilities.

NEW BUSINESS

- 35. License/Permit Public Event Permit, BA Event Promotions 5K Race of Ireland, Davis Sq area, Mar 16, 7AM-1PM.
- 36. License/Permit Public Event Permit, MOM's 5K Run for Cancer, Davis Sq area, May 11, 9-11:30AM.
- 37. License/Permit Sign/Awning Permit, Perfect Dental, 128 Broadway, 1 sign.
- 38. License/Permit New Outdoor Seating License, Ola Gifts Cafe, 112 Broadway, 3 tables, 6 seats.
- 39. License/Permit Renewing Outdoor Seating License, True Grounds, 717 Broadway.
- 40. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Auto Brokers, 182 Washington St.
- 41. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Beacon and Park Auto Sales, 75 Park St.
- 42. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Top Cars of Boston, 39 Webster Ave.
- 43. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Inman Motor Sales, 463 McGrath Hwy.
- 44. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, A Plus Auto Body, 297 Medford St.
- 45. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Mass Auto Brokers, 631 Somerville Ave.
- 46. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Automotive Transport Service, 495 Columbia St.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 47. Order By Ald. Rossetti
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) provide this Board with a report on the number of tickets issued relative to clearing sidewalks, and the resulting revenue, during a typical snow storm and its impact, i.e., the effectiveness of those penalties during the next storm.
- 48. Order By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board amend the Rules of this Board, to establish a procedure for the joint sponsorship of items.

49. Order By Ald. White Jr., Lafuente
That the Chief Assessor and the Director of SPCD appear before this Board's Finance Committee to discuss the increase in commercial property valuations and real estate taxes, especially for restaurants, and its impact on existing businesses and future development.
50. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$50,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("free cash") to the Personnel Dept. Professional and Technical Services Account to fund executive recruitment services for the Police Chief selection process.
51. License/Permit Renewing Drainlayer's License, Roto Rooter Services.
52. License/Permit Renewing Garage License, Frongillo Realty, 0 Spring Hill Terrace.
53. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Green Automotive, 600 Windsor Place.
54. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Teele Square Auto, 1284 Broadway.
55. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Alewife Automotive, 395 Alewife Brook Pkwy.
56. License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, John's Auto Sales, 266 Beacon St.
57. License/Permit New Used Car Dealer's License Class 2, PJ's Motorcars, 161 Broadway, 34 vehicles inside.
58. Public Communication Sanford Spooner submitting comments re: installing GPS devices in city vehicles.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT