



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

OPEN SPACE, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
Committee Meeting

Wednesday - November 30, 2016, 6:30 PM  
Committee Room – 2nd Floor – City Hall

**AGENDA**

(Posted online: 11/14/16 at 8:25 AM)

- 1. Approval of the September 27, 2016 Minutes**
- 2. 197851: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Administration develop a comprehensive de-paving plan for city properties, especially school playgrounds, to alleviate flooding by reducing the 73% of Somerville that is covered by concrete, asphalt or other impervious surfaces.
- 3. 200299: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD, the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Sustainability and Environment consider the pros and cons of artificial turf and identify alternative designs for publicly accessible open space.
- 4. 200428: Discuss** Submitted by Envirotrac for Speedway LLC, to advance 3 soil borings in the sidewalk at 24 and 26-28 Kensington Avenue, and install monitoring wells in 2 of those borings.
- 5. 200638: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD provide this Board with the 2016 tree planting/replacement plan for all Wards.
- 6. 200749: Discuss** (White Jr.) – That the Supervisor of Inspectional Services report to this Board on the differences between the Stretch Energy Code and the International Energy Conservation Code 2012, and which Code the City is applying.
- 7. 200896: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works request that the

city's LED lighting contractor review the report by resident Luis Morales and provide their written comments.

8. **201378: Discuss** (Ballantyne, and the Entire Board) – That the Director of Sustainability and Environment provide an energy master plan for the most effective systems to approach net zero for Union Square and other "transformative zones" as outlined in SomerVision.
9. **201432: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment and the Commissioner of Public Works explore alternatives, such as a "pay as you throw" program, to limit the amount of curbside trash, and integrate curbside composting.
10. **201488: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Sullivan) – That the Director of SPCD confirm that only native trees are being used in the Lincoln Park renovation and advise of the species.
11. **201489: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Sullivan, Niedergang, Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works provide alternative trash disposal options, e.g., limiting the size of disposals, charging fees, etc.
12. **201567: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Arborist check the health of the tree at 143 Powerhouse Blvd.
13. **201585: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the dead tree at 50 Hall Avenue.
14. **201614: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works report to the Ward 2 Alderman on the removal of a tree at 25 Durham Street, and on its replacement.
15. **201690: Discuss** (Davis, Ballantyne) – That the Director of Communications maintain the city's website with information on the Emerald Ash Borer Program, including the revised list of trees to be removed, any schedule of planned phasing, and any other relevant information.
16. **201695: Discuss** (Davis, Ballantyne) – That the Director of Sustainability and the Environment report to this Board on reducing food waste and expanding composting at city schools.
17. **201696: Discuss** (Davis, Ballantyne) – That the Director of Sustainability and the

Environment and the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board on reducing landfill waste and expanding recycling at city schools.

18. **201737: Discuss** (Sullivan, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr., McWatters, McLaughlin, Davis) – That the Administration update this Board on the progress on instituting a curbside composting program.
19. **201753: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ballantyne, McWatters) – That the Mayor re-establish the Tree Advisory Committee, to be staffed by the full-time Arborist, expand its membership to 9 or 11 members, and broaden the scope of the Committee's duties.
20. **201840: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Director of Health and Human Services report to this Board on the potential harmful human health effects of the recently installed LED street lights.
21. **201857: Discuss** (Ballantyne, McWatters, Niedergang, Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Sustainability and Environment inform the Special Committee on Open Space, Environment and Energy which elements of the AMA's 2016 guidelines on LED lighting could be or have been used to minimize potential harmful effects.
22. **201861: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works dim the brightness and install a filter and/or directional screening on the LED street lights in the area of 47 Hall Avenue.
23. **201870: Discuss** (Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan) – That the Commissioner of Public Works explain why the trees at the Healy School were removed and what trees are going in their place.
24. **201903: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works inform this Board about plans to re-landscape any school properties, since both the Kennedy and Healey School yards were re-landscaped this summer without public notice.
25. **201904: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ballantyne, Sullivan, Davis, Rossetti, McLaughlin, McWatters, White Jr., Connolly) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Board on keeping city trees alive by watering them during this and future droughts.
26. **202018: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ballantyne, Sullivan, Davis, White Jr.) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Sustainability and Environment report to

this Board, and to the School Committee, on the use and necessity of pesticides in city-owned or city-maintained properties, and report on how organic maintenance would compare to current practices.

27. **202019: Discuss** (Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne, Rossetti) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Sustainability and Environment report to this Board, and to the School Committee, on the type, brand, cost, and use of all cleaning agents used in city and school buildings, and report on how "green," non-toxic cleaning products would compare with current practices.
28. **202189: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Administration discuss with this Board's Special Committee on Open Space, Environment and Energy, the costs identified by Lynn Weissman, attached, regarding natural grass and artificial turf fields.
29. **202276: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Chair of the Conservation Commission report to this Board with an update on that Commission's activities, primary concerns, and issues that are being worked on.
30. **200860: Discuss** Conveying a Presentation from SPCD, Recreation, and SomerStat on Fields.
31. **202009: Discuss** (Niedergang) – Conveying the Department of Public Works' response to questions about landscaping at the Healey School.
32. **202136: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 8/25/16.