

**City of Somerville, Massachusetts**  
**Matters of Business of the City Council**

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

February 10, 2022, 7:00 PM  
Meeting by Remote Participation  
\*\*\*\*\*

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the City Council will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

Register at the following website to view this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7931573838360178958>.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call            Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 28047)
2. Remembrances    Remembrances.  
(ID # 28048)
3. Minutes            Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,  
(ID # 28049)        January 13, 2022.

**CITATIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS**

4. Order                By City Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # 28050)        That Rule 25 of the Rules of this Council is hereby amended to change the name of the Committee on Equity, Gender, Families and Vulnerable Populations to the Committee on Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations.
5. Order                By City Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # 28027)        That the Director of Constituent Services provide this Council with a breakdown of 311 calls, by ward, during the past year.
6. Resolution         By City Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # 28028)        That the Chair of the Licensing Commission update this Council on the status of all recreational marijuana applicants already approved by the Marijuana Advisory Committee.

7. Order (ID # 28030) By City Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Council on the status of broken play equipment at Chuckie Harris Park.
8. Communication (ID # 28029) By City Councilor McLaughlin  
Updating this Council on the Charter Review process.
9. Resolution (ID # 28014) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the FY 2023 Budget establish and fund an affordable housing acquisition fund for development opportunities.
10. Resolution (ID # 28015) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the FY 2023 Budget establish a modernized mortgage assistance program to support first-time and first-generation homebuyers.
11. Resolution (ID # 28016) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the FY 2023 Budget include meaningful investment towards establishing non-police first responder programs for non-criminal emergencies.
12. Resolution (ID # 28017) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the FY 2023 Budget include meaningful investment towards establishing a community engagement center and meeting center that is not part of a police station.
13. Resolution (ID # 28018) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Davis  
That the FY 2023 Budget include a citywide residential composting program.
14. Resolution (ID # 28019) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Burnley Jr.  
That the FY 2023 Budget include funding for a historical Disparity Study in Purchasing and goals for purchasing from local women and minority owned businesses.
15. Resolution (ID # 28020) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Clingan  
That the FY 2023 Budget include an investment in finding physical storage space and programmatic support for a program to teach youth and other residents to fix donated bicycles.
16. Resolution (ID # 28021) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the FY 2023 Budget continue the recent trend of significantly increasing capacity to implement street safety redesigns.

17. Order (ID # 28023) By City Councilor Scott, GomezMouakad  
That the Director of Mobility replace the HAWK signal at Buckingham and Beacon Streets with a standard RYG stoplight signal.
18. Order (ID # 28024) By City Councilor Scott  
That the Director of Mobility and the Director of Engineering provide a written timeline regarding the upcoming MassDOT replacement of the Webster Street rail bridge and explain what public input process will be followed locally.
19. Order (ID # 28025) By City Councilor Scott  
That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development ensure that Planning Board meeting minutes are posted publicly for review.
20. Order (ID # 28026) By City Councilor Scott  
That the Director of Mobility install a speed hump at the base of Somerville Avenue Extension where it intersects with Linwood and Fitchburg Streets.
21. Order (ID # 28039) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the ADA Coordinator provide a copy of all 311 ADA related requests as well as any documented ADA violations and their remedies.
22. Order (ID # 28041) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Commissioner of Public Works develop a system for clearing all pedestrian sidewalk ramps.
23. Resolution (ID # 28040) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Mayor consider implementing a residency exemption for members of commissions who are required by law to remain on their respective commission until a replacement has been appointed.
24. Order (ID # 28006) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Director of Mobility implement traffic calming measures on Cedar Street.
25. Order (ID # 28007) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Commissioner of Public Works, the Director of Procurement and Contracting Services, and the Director of Mobility report on the enforcement of and status of annual reporting on the city's Ordinance to Safeguard Vulnerable Road Users.

26. Order (ID # 28008) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Director of Housing report on measures and strategies being implemented to address the racial inequities in homeownership.
27. Order (ID # 28009) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Director of Housing provide the data requested within for inclusionary homes built after 2016, to better understand how the program is addressing housing needs.
28. Order (ID # 28010) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Director of Housing and the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment work with the Somerville Community Corporation to explore funding and rebates available for weatherization and other sustainability measures.
29. Order (ID # 28011) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Director of Economic Development report on the city's role in the relocation of the Somerville YMCA and its participation in programming to help address the need for a community center.
30. Order (ID # 28012) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Commissioner of Public Works report on the possibility of including sidewalk curb cut snow clearance when in close proximity to stormwater drains scheduled for clearing following a snowstorm.
31. Order (ID # 28013) By City Councilor GomezMouakad, PinedaNeufeld  
That the Director of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with SomerViva, provide a plan for preventive medicine clinics for immigrant communities.
32. Order (ID # 28005) By City Councilor GomezMouakad  
That the Director of Mobility review the attached draft Act Relative to the Operation and Regulation of Electric Bicycles in the City of Salem and consider supporting similar legislation.
33. Order (ID # 28031) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld  
That the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer appear to discuss the appointment process for new hires and promotions.

34. Order (ID # 28032) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld, Kelly  
That the Director of Housing Stability appear to discuss how to prevent evictions, support residents facing eviction, and the ability to extend the eviction moratorium.
35. Order (ID # 28033) By City Councilor Wilson  
That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Council on snow removal operations during and following the weather event of January 29, 2022.
36. Order (ID # 28034) By City Councilor Wilson  
That the Director of Economic Development and Director of Planning, Preservation & Zoning update this Council on the search for a new site for the YMCA.
37. Order (ID # 28035) By City Councilor Wilson  
That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Council on plans to address unsafe conditions at the Brown schoolyard.
38. Order (ID # 28036) By City Councilor Wilson  
That the Director of Mobility update this Council on future plans for pedestrian "beg" buttons, which were disabled in favor of automatic signaling during the COVID-19 pandemic.
39. Order (ID # 27992) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss an updated long-term plan for aging in place for residents 65 and over.
40. Order (ID # 27993) By City Councilor Strezo  
That this City Council work with the Administration to explore an internship program for high school students.
41. Order (ID # 27994) By City Councilor Strezo  
That this City Council work with the Administration and School District on a year-round expansion of a summer jobs internship program with a focus on addressing Out of School Time.
42. Resolution (ID # 27995) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Executive Director of the Housing Authority discuss the possibility of providing wireless internet in communal areas.

43. Resolution (ID # 27996) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Executive Director of the Housing Authority discuss the establishment of an on-site resident food pantry within each Housing Authority property to address the food insecurity needs of residents.
44. Order (ID # 27997) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss the recruitment and retention of Teen Snow Shoveling Program participants.
45. Resolution (ID # 27998) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Mayor create a Senior Liaison within the Executive Office to advocate on behalf of Somerville residents aged 65 and older.
46. Order (ID # 27999) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of the Council on Aging discuss a plan to allow seniors to be bussed to city events, including on evenings and weekends.
47. Order (ID # 28000) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development and the Director of Health and Human Services discuss a re-assessment to determine if Somerville is in compliance with its 2018 designation as an AARP Age-Friendly Community.
48. Order (ID # 28001) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss implementing a year-round garden program to address Out of School Time.
49. Order (ID # 28022) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development provide an update on the status of work and finances of the Community Preservation Act grants of 2018 for the Brown School and West Somerville Neighborhood School playground designs and the continuing plans for the projects.
50. Order (ID # 28037) By City Councilor Kelly  
That the Director of Health and Human Services, the Director of Inspectional Services and the Environmental Health Coordinator update this Council on current rodent mitigation plans.

- 51. Order (ID # 28038) By City Councilor Kelly  
That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Council on the replacement of trash bins due to rodent activity.
  
- 52. Order (ID # 28042) By City Councilor BurnleyJr.  
That the City Solicitor draft language to amend the Housing Stability Notification Act to proactively meet the needs of residents.
  
- 53. Order (ID # 28043) By City Councilor BurnleyJr.  
That the City Solicitor advise this Council on its ability to ban hostile architecture.
  
- 54. Order (ID # 28044) By City Councilor BurnleyJr.  
That the Director of Mobility conduct an equity study of bus routes to determine targets for fare-free buses.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

55. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27972) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on February 2, 2022.
  
- B. Mayor's Request 212899 Requesting the re-appointment of Alan Bishop as Constable.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- C. Mayor's Request 212900 Requesting the re-appointment of Mary Battinelli as Constable.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- D. Mayor's Request 212901 Requesting the re-appointment of Catello Battinelli II as Constable.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- E. Mayor's Request 212902 Requesting the reappointment of Eleanor Rances to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- F. Order 212984 By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld  
That the Director of Human Resources discuss the hiring and appointment processes.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- G. Mayor's Request 213001 Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Stephanie Galaitsi to the Women's Commission.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- H. Mayor's Request 213015 Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Brian Postlewaite to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

56. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27974) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on February 8, 2022.
  
- B. Mayor's Request 212883 Requesting the appropriation of \$808,639 from the Salary and Wage Stabilization Fund to the Police Department Personal Services, Other Lump Sum Benefits Account to fund retroactive payments for a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Somerville and the Somerville Police Superior Officers Association.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- C. Mayor's Request 212884 Requesting the appropriation of \$174,882 from the Salary Contingency Account to the Police Department Personal Services Accounts to fund a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Somerville and the Somerville Police Superior Officers Association.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- D. Mayor's Request 212889 Requesting approval to create the Assembly Square Off-Site Infrastructure Stabilization Fund and accept a payment to said Fund of \$687,260 from the Alta Xmbly Development project, for off site infrastructure to support and enhance the surrounding neighborhoods.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- E. Mayor's Request 212890 Requesting approval to create the Assembly Square Public Realm and Area Improvements Stabilization Fund and accept a payment to said Fund of \$549,808 from the Alta Xmbly Development project, to support and enhance the public realm in the surrounding neighborhoods.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- F. Mayor's Request 212891 Requesting approval to create the Assembly Square Transit Area Improvements Stabilization Fund and accept a payment to said Fund of \$103,089 from the Alta Xmbly Development project, for transit area improvements to support and enhance the surrounding neighborhoods.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- G. Mayor's Request 212895 Requesting acceptance, and approval to expend, a \$49,980 grant with no new match required, from MA Office of Public Safety and Security to the Police Department for traffic enforcement programs.  
RECOMMENDED: Not Approved.

- H. Mayor's Request 212896 Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$25,600 grant with no new match required, from MEMA/FEMA's Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) for the purchase of 911 Center planning consultant services.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- I. Mayor's Request 212897 Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$15,000 grant with no new match required, from MA Department of Energy Resources to the Office of Sustainability and Environment for conducting a feasibility study regarding adding battery backup systems to municipal owned buildings.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- J. Mayor's Request 212935 Requesting approval to amend a contract with Design Consultants for an additional 2 years and \$53,146.25, for final work related to the Beacon St. Roadway construction project.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- K. Mayor's Request 212998 Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$74,400 grant with no new match required, from the MA Office of Public Safety for Police Department staffing.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- L. Mayor's Request 212999 Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$34,896.32 grant with no new match required, from the MA Executive Office of Public Safety & Security to the Fire Department for the purchase of portable radios.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

57. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27971) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on February 1, 2022.
- B. Public Communication 212913 Kechia Davis requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to re-zone 1060 Broadway Unit C-001 from Powderhouse School (PS) to Commercial Industry (CI).  
RECOMMENDED: Withdrawn
- C. Order 212959 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen That the Land Use Committee review the process of amending zoning ordinances, for the benefit of new Councilors and the public.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

58. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27975) Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on February 9, 2022.

- B. License/Permit 213014 New Garage License, Toucan Auto Center Inc, 619 Somerville Avenue, 39 vehicles inside, 1 vehicles outside for auto body work, spray painting, and charging money to store vehicles.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved with Conditions

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

59. Mayor's Request (ID # 27978) Requesting the appropriation of \$964,344 from the Unreserved Fund Balance/Free Cash Account to the Arthur Healey Schoolyard Renovation Account to remediate contaminated on-site soils.
60. Mayor's Request (ID # 27976) Requesting a transfer of \$23,612 from the Health and Human Services Salaries Account to the Inspectional Services Salaries Account to establish the position of Environmental Health Coordinator in the Inspectional Service Department.

**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

61. Officer's Communication (ID # 27968) City Clerk requesting approval of her Public Official's Bond.
62. Officer's Communication (ID # 27991) Director of Inspectional Services requesting to appear before this Council to provide updates and discuss the SMART pilot, Residential Rodent Programs, and Community Outreach.
63. Officer's Communication (ID # 27979) Director of Parking responding to Item #212958, providing an update on the status of the Parking Utilization Study.
64. Officer's Communication (ID # 27980) Chief of Police responding to Item #212860, providing an update on the staffing of crossing guards.
65. Officer's Communication (ID # 28002) Commissioner of Public Works conveying responses to five City Council orders, as outlined within.

**NEW BUSINESS**

66. Public Communication (ID # 28045) Powderhouse Living, LLC requesting a Zoning Text Amendment to the Permitted Uses Table 7.2.7 of the Powderhouse School Special District.
67. License/Permit (ID # 27981) New Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Joy St Motors, 24 Joy St, 42 inside, 0 outside, Mon-Fri: 8AM-6PM, Sat: 8AM-2PM, Sun: closed.

- 68. License/Permit (ID # 27984) New Garage License, DW Propco EF LLC, 250 Water Street, 374 inside, 12 outside for storing vehicles only, operating 24/7.
- 69. License/Permit (ID # 27985) New Flammables License, DW Propco EF LLC, 250 Water Street, storing 1320 gallons.
- 70. License/Permit (ID # 27982) Public Event License, East Somerville Main Streets Market, sidewalk in front of East Branch Public Library, Saturdays May 15-Nov 27, 8AM-2PM.
- 71. License/Permit (ID # 27986) New Drainlayer's License, James T. Lynch Construction Co., Inc.
- 72. License/Permit (ID # 27983) Small Wireless Facility License, Extenet attaching small wireless facilities on an existing pole near 12 Linden Street.
- 73. License/Permit (ID # 27987) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Pearl St Auto Sales, 182 Pearl St.
- 74. License/Permit (ID # 27990) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Gene Automotive, 56 Joy St.
- 75. License/Permit (ID # 27989) Renewing Garage License, Pearl St Auto Sales, 182 Pearl St.
- 76. License/Permit (ID # 27988) Renewing Flammables License, Pearl St Auto Sales, 182 Pearl St.
- 77. Public Communication (ID # 28046) Residents submitting comments re: establishment of a special subcommittee to focus on the issues and concerns of older adults.

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 78. Order (ID # 28053) By City Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Commissioner of Public Works identify a permanent location for disposal of snow.
- 79. Communication (ID # 28052) By City Councilor McLaughlin  
In his capacity as President, conveying the creation of a Special Committee on School Building Facilities and Maintenance.
- 80. License/Permit (ID # 28051) Transferring Taxi Medallion License, Medallion #20 from Edelle Cab to LaFoi Taxi Inc.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**