



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

### Regular Meeting Agenda

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Monday, December 4, 2023

6:00 PM

Virtual

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(Posted online: 11/27/23 at 8:45 AM)

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of a City Council Committee 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.

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#### Roll Call

1. Committee Minutes (ID # 23-1705) **Approval Review:** Approval of the Minutes of the Public Utilities and Public Works Committee Meeting of November 13, 2023.
2. Order (ID # [23-1773](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Clingan, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Davis, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott and Councilor Wilson  
That the Director of Engineering provide this Council with a timeline for all utility work and paving projects scheduled for Highland Ave including the Highland Ave redesign project.

3. Order  
(ID # [23-1677](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Davis and Councilor Clingan  
That the Director of Water and Sewer explain the increases in water bills for households with new water meters and consider a forgiveness period for unexpected increases due to inaccuracies in prior metering.
4. Order  
(ID # [23-1596](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Commissioner of Public Works install a water fountain for people and dogs at Nunziato field.
5. Resolution  
(ID # [23-1437](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad and Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Administration report on capacity to allow parallel staffing and funding for the development of the 1895 Building, School Building Master Plan and the Fire Department Master Plan Building Study.
6. Resolution  
(ID # [23-1436](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad and Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Administration collaborate with the School Department on determining the best and future use of the 1895 Building.
7. Order  
(ID # [23-1435](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Pineda Neufeld and Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management report on ongoing deficiencies of City Hall and the City Hall Annex that could impair the future use of these buildings.
8. Order  
(ID # [23-1183](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad  
That the Director of Water and Sewer and the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management explain what maintenance will be required for the new Poplar Street Pump Station and Spring Hill Sewer Separation Project, and how these maintenance requirements will be staffed to ensure their proper upkeep.
9. Order  
(ID # [23-0548](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Clingan  
That this Council's Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works discuss the Somerville Internet Access Task Force's recommendation regarding Municipal Broadband.

10. Order  
(ID # [22-2124](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Wilson, Councilor Clingan and Councilor Scott  
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management and the Director of Engineering discuss with this Council, a policy of burying utilities when a new thoroughfare is constructed.
11. Order  
(ID # [22-2023](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Strezo, Councilor Ewen-Campen and Councilor Burnley Jr.  
That the Commissioner of Public Works provide information on options to engage local and minority owned businesses in contract work.
12. Resolution  
(ID # [22-1987](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Davis  
That the Administration work with the City Council to establish a process for enforcement of Section 11-63 of the Code of Ordinances.
13. Order  
(ID # [22-1848](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wilson  
That this Council discuss municipal broadband, and the implementation of the Somerville Internet Access Task Force.
14. Resolution  
(ID # [22-1797](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Clingan, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Davis, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wilson  
That the Administration make information about all licenses and permits viewable without requiring a CitizenServ account.
15. Resolution  
(ID # [22-1763](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Administration update this Council on developments related to the Request for Proposals for the disposition of the property located at 90 Union Square.

16. Resolution  
(ID # [22-1762](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor McLaughlin,  
Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Scott  
That the Administration update this Council on actions  
taken related to the possible relocation of the Somerville  
Media Center and Massachusetts Alliance for Portuguese  
Speakers from the city-owned property at 90 Union  
Square.
17. Order  
(ID # [22-1737](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor McLaughlin and  
Councilor Kelly  
That the Commissioner of Public Works update the  
Ward 1 City Councilor regarding plans to find a location  
for excessive snow other than 90 Washington Street.
18. Order  
(ID # [22-1688](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Clingan  
That the Director of Engineering develop safety  
protocols and notification requirements for any projects,  
planned or emergency, taking place within a determined  
radius of a school.
19. Order  
(ID # [22-1596](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Burnley Jr.  
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset  
Management present to this Council, a plan to fix the  
Somerville Media Center's roof.
20. Ordinance  
(ID # [22-0835](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Strezo, Councilor  
Pineda Neufeld and Councilor Gomez Mouakad  
Amending Sec. 11-63 of the Code of Ordinances  
regarding the removal of poles, conduits and wires.
21. Order  
(ID # [22-0450](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor McLaughlin,  
Councilor Kelly and Councilor Strezo  
That the Commissioner of Public Works work with the  
MA Department of Transportation to address highway  
safety measures along I-93 that directly abut the East  
Somerville neighborhood.
22. Order  
(ID # [22-0336](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad,  
Councilor Clingan and Councilor Wilson  
That the Director of Engineering and the Director of  
Infrastructure and Asset Management consider  
implementing a pilot program for Green Infrastructure as  
a means to reduce issues of flooding in the Gilman  
Square Neighborhood.

23. Order  
(ID # [22-0052](#))
- Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Kelly, Councilor Pineda Neufeld and Councilor Ewen-Campen That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development work with this Council to create policies to reduce the length of time that construction projects block sidewalk access, including the possibility of increasing fees to discourage extended sidewalk closures.