

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

November 25, 2014, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
 (ID # 10693)

2. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the October 14, 2014,
 (ID # 10694) Special Meeting, and the October 23, 2014, Regular
 Meeting.

CITATIONS

3. Citation By Ald. Connolly, and the Entire Board and the Mayor
 (ID # 10695) Commending Frank Mancini for being honored as the
 2014 Insurance Professional of the Year.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. Grant of Submitted by Verizon to install 95 feet of conduit from a
 Location pole on Windsor Street to a manhole on South Street.
 (ID # 10698)

5. Grant of Teleport Communications America to place two conduits
 Location from an existing Level 3 conduit bank on Beacon Street
 (ID # 10699) opposite Properzi Way, northeasterly 176 feet along
 Properzi Way, then across Properzi Way to Pole 347/13,
 then to existing conduit that leads to 175 Beacon Street.

6. Officer's Chief Assessor's Classification Hearing Report regarding
 Request the adoption of Tax Levy Percentages for FY15,
 (ID # 10644) including a minimum residential factor, a residential
 exemption, and an additional statutory exemption of up
 to 100%.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

7. Order By Ald. Rossetti, Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr.
 (ID # 10646) That the Commissioner of Public Works investigate and
 report back on installing solar powered kiosks in our
 parks and playgrounds to communicate youth and family
 activities in our city.

8. Order (ID # 10654) By Ald. Lafuente
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) appear before this Board to discuss morale issues at the Building Dept.
9. Order (ID # 10655) By Ald. Lafuente
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) appear before this Board to explain the new process of obtaining permits and why it takes so long to obtain one, even on simple projects.
10. Order (ID # 10656) By Ald. Lafuente
That the Director of the SPCD (ISD) and the Director of Personnel appear before this Board to explain why health inspectors earn the same amount, or more than, building inspectors when they do not need to be licensed and building inspectors do.
11. Order (ID # 10657) By Ald. Lafuente
That the Commissioner of Public Works appear before this Board with a list of sidewalks that will be redone with new ADA accessibility under the \$2,700,000 bonding recently approved.
12. Order (ID # 10658) By Ald. Lafuente
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) and the Director of Personnel appear before this Board to explain how gained sick time is dealt with and how employees can take that time off.
13. Order (ID # 10659) By Ald. Lafuente
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) appear before this Board to explain why inspectors are asking to take pictures during inspections inside people's homes.
14. Order (ID # 10669) By Ald. McLaughlin
That the Director of SPCD replace the trees recently removed from Cross Street, just prior to the bridge by McGrath Highway.
15. Order (ID # 10670) By Ald. McLaughlin
That the Director of SPCD inquire of the developer of the complex on McGrath Highway, between Otis and Bonair Streets, why they aren't abiding by their promises for resident parking, lighting, and repairs to the McGrath Highway overpass.

16. Order (ID # 10671) By Ald. Sullivan, Niedergang, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
That the Director of SPCD update this Board on its public education campaign concerning appropriate bicycling in central business districts.
17. Order (ID # 10672) By Ald. Sullivan, McLaughlin, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a NOT A THRU WAY sign at the entrance of Cobble Hill Apartments on Washington Street.
18. Order (ID # 10673) By Ald. Sullivan, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
That the Chief Fire Engineer explain the emergency procedures associated with gaining access to residents at Housing Authority buildings.
19. Order (ID # 10674) By Ald. Sullivan, McLaughlin, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street light on Perkins Street, at the Perkins Street playground.
20. Order (ID # 10675) By Ald. Sullivan, Lafuente, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street light located at 15 Crest Hill Road. (3rd request)
21. Order (ID # 10676) By Ald. Sullivan, Heuston
That the Director of Traffic and Parking adjust the continuously flashing STOP sign at the corner of Hammond and Dickinson Streets, as it is having a negative effect on the quality of life for residents.
22. Order (ID # 10677) By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lamp at 1 Powderhouse Square and check the timing of street lamps in Davis Square Plaza that have been on during the day.
23. Order (ID # 10678) By Ald. Connolly, Rossetti, Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Chief Fire Engineer appear at this Board's December 10 Public Health and Safety Committee meeting to report on the Fire Department this past year and the forecast for 2015, preferably in writing.
24. Order (ID # 10686) By Ald. Niedergang
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the crosswalk and the pavement at Linden Avenue on the south side of Summer Street so pedestrians don't trip.

25. Order (ID # 10684) By Ald. Niedergang, White Jr., Sullivan, Rossetti
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) 1) ensure that the developer of 35R Lexington Avenue performs all required soil testing and provides the City Engineer with reports about drainage issues, 2) ensure that the developer completes the project in conformance with the relevant ZBA decision, and 3) permit any additional drainage mitigation needed.
26. Order (ID # 10685) By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD report to this Board on the construction plans and timeline for the curb cut at the elbow on Warwick Street to enable bicycle access to the concrete path that leads to the Community Path extension.
27. Order (ID # 10687) By Ald. Ballantyne
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a mid-block crosswalk with lights/signs at the North Street Veterans Playground, either at Hamilton Road or directly in front of the playground entrance.
28. Order (ID # 10688) By Ald. Ballantyne
That the Commissioner of Public Works notify the appropriate utility company to remove the double pole in front of 46 Elmwood Street.
29. Order (ID # 10689) By Ald. Ballantyne
That the Commissioner of Public Works re-install the street light that was removed 4 years ago at 72 Curtis Street.
30. Order (ID # 10690) By Ald. Ballantyne
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the squeaky vent noise at 12 Cameron Avenue and report back to the Ward 7 Alderman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

31. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10653) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments, meeting on November 24, 2014.

- B. Order 197626 By Ald. Gewirtz, Ballantyne
That the City Solicitor appear before this Board's
Committee on Confirmation of Appointments to discuss
the hiring of a Director of Recreation and Youth.
RECOMMENDED: Referred for Recommendation
- C. Mayor's Request 198002 Requesting the appointment of Paul Savage to the Fire
Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- D. Mayor's Request 198003 Requesting the appointment of Douglas Henry to the Fire
Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- E. Mayor's Request 198004 Requesting the appointment of Sean Layton To The Fire
Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- F. Mayor's Request 198005 Requesting the appointment of Christopher Galvin To
The Fire Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- G. Mayor's Request 198006 Requesting the appointment of Jason Vroom To The Fire
Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- H. Mayor's Request 198007 Requesting the appointment of Ryan Layton To The Fire
Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- I. Mayor's Request 198008 Requesting the appointment of Robert Whelan To The
Fire Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- J. Mayor's Request 198009 Requesting the appointment of Raymond Busi to the Fire
Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- K. Mayor's Request 198010 Requesting the appointment of Stephen Cafferky to the
Fire Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- L. Mayor's Request 198011 Requesting the appointment of Joseph Laudano to the
Fire Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- M. Mayor's Request 198012 Requesting the appointment of Hallam Massiah to the
Fire Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- N. Mayor's Request 198013 Requesting the appointment of Tommaso Saporito to the
Fire Dept. Reserve List.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

32. ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10648) Report of the Special Committee on Environment and
Energy, meeting on November 20, 2014.

- B. Order 196628 By Ald. Gewirtz, Niedergang
That the City Solicitor provide this Board with information regarding plastic bag reduction techniques utilized in other MA municipalities, as well as whether the city can place a deposit fee on such bags or regulate their use to contain free advertisers.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 197490 By Ald. Niedergang, Ballantyne
That the Director of Sustainability and Environment appear before this Board's Committee on Environment and Energy on his plans for the coming year.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 197848 By Ald. Ballantyne
That the Director of SPCD, the City Engineer, the Director of Finance, the Chief Assessor and the Director of Sustainability research incentives to encourage property owners to install permeable surfaces instead of blacktop, to reduce storm water run-off and the urban heat island effect.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Order 197849 By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD (Planning and ISD) report to this Board on enforcement of the pervious surfaces ordinances, and consider providing incentives to property owners to reduce the amount of concrete and asphalt and replace it with pervious surfaces.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

33. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10662) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on November 24, 2014.

34. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10649) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on November 24, 2014.
- B. Order 196875 By Ald. White Jr.
That the City Solicitor report in September, 2014, to this Board's Committee on Housing and Community Development on whether the Somerville District Court has responded to the city's concerns with respect to enforcing code violations by absentee landlords.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- C. Order 197155 By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD and the Superintendent of ISD report to this Board with a plan to ensure prompt and coordinated responses to Board Orders, 311 call entries, emails and phone calls from Aldermen about constituent issues.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 197695 By Ald. Heuston, Lafuente
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) explain the process for building permit approvals that require both ISD and Planning Department sign offs, and create a process that expedites simple applications and provides improved customer service.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Order 197742 By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD inform this Board about the requirements to enter the application pool for an affordable housing rental or homeownership unit, and explain the regulations that allow non-residents to apply.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

35. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10647) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on November 19, 2014.
- B. Order 197718 By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board any legal action with respect to the broken solar trash barrels in Davis Square and elsewhere.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 197956 By Ald. Connolly
That the Chief of Police appear before the Public Health and Safety Committee to report on the current and future progress of the Police Dept.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 197957 By Ald. Connolly
That the Commissioner of Public Works report to the Committee on Public Health and Safety on the streetlamp repair contractor and the repairs of streetlamps.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Order 197961 By Ald. McLaughlin
That the Commissioner of Public Works notify NStar to provide justification for its proposal to cut down a tree on Gilman Terrace to make room for its wires.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

36. CAUCUS OF THE 2015 BOARD OF ALDERMEN

- A. Committee Report of the Caucus of the 2015 Board of Aldermen, Report meeting on November 25, 2014. (ID # 10718)

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

37. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$1,607,096 in Parking Meter Receipts to reduce the FY2015 Tax Levy. (ID # 10645)
38. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$125,000 from the Overlay Surplus declared by the Board of Assessors to reduce the FY2015 Tax Levy. (ID # 10664)
39. Mayor's Request Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$2,000,000 to establish a Facility Construction and Renovation Stabilization Fund. (ID # 10682)
40. Mayor's Request Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$1,500,000 to establish a Street Reconstruction and Resurfacing Stabilization Fund. (ID # 10683)
41. Mayor's Request Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$1,250,000 to the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund. (ID # 10679)
42. Mayor's Request Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$750,000 to the Parks Stabilization Fund. (ID # 10680)
43. Mayor's Request Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$500,000 to the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund. (ID # 10681)
44. Mayor's Request Requesting to appropriate \$242,296 from excess FY2015 Community Preservation Act Fund revenues to the Community Preservation Act Fund Budgeted Reserve per the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee. (ID # 10651)
45. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$225,000 and authorization to borrow \$225,000 in a bond for Phase One services for a Citywide Wayfinding Program. (ID # 10601)
46. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$25,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Police Department Professional and Technical Services Account to fund a drug prevention program. (ID # 10650)

- 47. Mayor's Request (ID # 10643) Requesting the use of \$1,155 in available funds for a LGBT Liaison position in the Health and Human Services Department Salaries Monthly Account, to increase outreach and engagement for a 6 month period.
- 48. Mayor's Request (ID # 10517) Requesting acceptance of a \$39,946 MA Department of Agriculture Grant to support and expand the Health and Human Services Department's Shape Up Somerville Food Production/Distribution Triangle.
- 49. Mayor's Request (ID # 10652) Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$10,605 from Metro North Regional Employment Board, for the Health and Human Services Department to fund employment, training and support services for youth.
- 50. Mayor's Request (ID # 10516) Requesting approval to accept a \$10,000 CHNA 17 Youth Leadership Development Grant for the Health and Human Services Department for youth programming.
- 51. Mayor's Request (ID # 10667) Requesting the adoption of MGL c59 s5L, to provide temporary tax relief for members of the MA National Guard and Reserves.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 52. Officer's Request (ID # 10660) City Assessor submitting a proposed increase in the MGL c59 s5 clause 41C base exemption amount to \$1,000 (from \$750), for seniors age 65 and older.
- 53. Officer's Communication (ID # 10697) Personnel Director responding to #197980 re: the city's domestic violence leave policy.

NEW BUSINESS

- 54. License/Permit (ID # 10700) Sign/Awning Permit, Falafel Place, 1 Main St., 2 signs.
- 55. License/Permit (ID # 10701) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Pat's Towing, 160 McGrath Hwy.
- 56. License/Permit (ID # 10702) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Inman Motors, 463 McGrath Hwy.
- 57. License/Permit (ID # 10703) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Top Cars, 39 Webster
- 58. License/Permit (ID # 10704) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Motorcycles & More, 109 Bailey Rd.

- 59. License/Permit (ID # 10705) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, CM Auto Sales, 30 Joy St.
- 60. License/Permit (ID # 10706) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, American Auto Gallery, 682 Mystic Ave.
- 61. License/Permit (ID # 10707) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Mystic Auto Sales and Service, 712 Mystic Ave.
- 62. License/Permit (ID # 10708) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Union Gulf Service, 231 Washington St.
- 63. License/Permit (ID # 10709) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Beacon and Park Auto Sales, 75 Park St.
- 64. License/Permit (ID # 10710) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Top Gear Motor Group, 24 Joy St.
- 65. License/Permit (ID # 10711) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Broadway Sunoco, 258 Broadway.
- 66. License/Permit (ID # 10712) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Simon's Auto Service, 166 Boston Ave.
- 67. License/Permit (ID # 10713) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Webster Auto Sales, 61 Prospect St.
- 68. License/Permit (ID # 10714) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Hillside Service Center, 45 Mystic Ave.
- 69. License/Permit (ID # 10715) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Broadway Auto Sales, 525 Broadway.
- 70. License/Permit (ID # 10716) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Dali Restaurant, 415 Washington Street.
- 71. License/Permit (ID # 10717) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Au Bon Pain, 40 Holland St.
- 72. Public Communication (ID # 10696) DCR submitting comments re: #197786, requesting that they remove ragweed from the shoreline of the Mystic River.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 73. Order (ID # 10719) By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a temporary speed bump on Hammond Street.
- 74. Order (ID # 10720) By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of Traffic and Parking implement a pedestrian safety plan for Webster Avenue at the Cambridge border, to support the residents on Webster Avenue and Norfolk Street.
- 75. Order (ID # 10721) By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works attach an explanatory tag to bicycles that are suspected of being abandoned to provide due notice to owners of impending removal.
- 76. Communication (ID # 10739) By Ald. White Jr.
Acting as President, cancelling the Regular meeting of this Board that was scheduled for December 23, 2014.
- 77. Mayor's Request (ID # 10736) Requesting that this Board convene in executive session to discuss pending litigation, anticipated litigation and legal strategy related to the awarding of the Region A casino license.
- 78. Mayor's Request (ID # 10737) Requesting that this Board convene in executive session to discuss pending litigation related to 46 Pearl St.
- 79. Mayor's Request (ID # 10692) Requesting an appropriation of \$500,000 and authorization to borrow that amount in a bond for a comprehensive planning effort for Assembly Square.
- 80. Mayor's Request (ID # 10691) Requesting the creation of a Union Square Stabilization and Revitalization Fund as well as acceptance of \$211,225 for the Fund from the Union Square Master Developer to finance a Union Square master planning process and Redevelopment Authority outside legal counsel.
- 81. Mayor's Request (ID # 10735) Requesting the adoption of the 56th paragraph of MGL c59 s5, to provide tax abatements for members of the MA National Guard and Reserves on active duty in foreign countries.
- 82. Mayor's Request (ID # 10738) Requesting the adoption of MGL c60A s9, to provide temporary excise tax relief for members of the MA National Guard and Reserves on active duty in foreign countries.

83. Mayor's Request (ID # 10724) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Shawn Brady as a special police officer for 2015.
84. Mayor's Request (ID # 10725) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Sean Browne as a special police officer for 2015.
85. Mayor's Request (ID # 10726) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Jose Colon as a special police officer for 2015.
86. Mayor's Request (ID # 10727) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Harold Curtis Jr. as a special police officer for 2015.
87. Mayor's Request (ID # 10728) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee George D'Amelio III as a special police officer for 2015.
88. Mayor's Request (ID # 10729) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Michael deBethencourt as a special police officer for 2015.
89. Mayor's Request (ID # 10730) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Michael Eastman as a special police officer for 2015.
90. Mayor's Request (ID # 10731) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee James Lawson as a special police officer for 2015.
91. Mayor's Request (ID # 10732) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Wayne Gabaree as a special police officer for 2015.
92. Mayor's Request (ID # 10733) Requesting the re-appointment of Housing Authority employee Robert Hartsgrove as a special police officer for 2015.
93. Officer's Communication (ID # 10734) SPCD Director responding to #196437 re: local hiring and workforce development initiatives.
94. License/Permit (ID # 10744) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Taipei Tokyo, 7 Holland St.

- 95. License/Permit (ID # 10743) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Mr. Crepe, 51 Davis Sq.
- 96. License/Permit (ID # 10742) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, The Burren, 247 Elm St.
- 97. License/Permit (ID # 10741) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, PJ Ryans, 239 Holland St.
- 98. License/Permit (ID # 10740) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Spoke Wine Bar, 89 Holland St.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT