



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Committee Meeting

Wednesday - September 21, 2016, 6:30 PM
Committee Room – 2nd Floor – City Hall

AGENDA

(Posted online: 9/17/16 at 6:43 AM)

- 1. Approval of the March 15, 2016 Minutes**
- 2. 195521: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of SPCD (ISD) implement a plan to address trash and code violations each May and September, when student moves have the greatest impact on the City.
- 3. 195528: Discuss in Committee** (Sullivan, Bastardi, Heuston, Lafuente, White Jr., O'Keefe) – That this Board's Committee on Public Utilities and Works explore Boston's Code Ordinance CBC 9-1.3, which requires private rental units to be registered on an annual basis and inspections to be conducted for non-exempt units on a 5-year cycle.
- 4. 196186: Discuss** (Niedergang, Rossetti, Ballantyne) – That the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board whether it is possible to have the Public Schools open when there is a declared snow emergency, and, if it is possible, to also report the plan for teacher and staff parking, since school parking lots are used then for resident parking.
- 5. 196302: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board on the performance of the contractor who maintains the street lights, the terms of the contract and deliverables, and the process to ensure that street lights are maintained and operable.
- 6. 196378: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Director of SPCD and/or the Commissioner of Public Works notify property owners along lower Broadway of the five year moratorium on renovations to private sewer systems and encourage them to make appropriate plans.

7. **196608: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works notify the appropriate utility regarding the double pole on Perkins Street.
8. **196621: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works contact the appropriate utility and cable vendors to address the low hanging wires on Allen Street.
9. **196770: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works contact the appropriate utility company regarding the removal of double poles on Perkins Street, Glen Street, Cutter Street, Kennison Avenue and Garfield Street.
10. **196785: Discuss** (Rossetti) – That the Commissioner of Public Works explain the policy regarding the height of utility wires suspended from poles, and the protocols in place to ensure adherence to the policy.
11. **196913: Discuss** (Sullivan, Lafuente, McLaughlin, White Jr., Rossetti, Connolly) – That the Commissioner of Public Works clean the banks of the Mystic River along Assembly Row and ensure that a regular cleaning schedule is put in place.
12. **196970: Discuss** (Gewirtz) – That the Commissioner of Public Works contact the appropriate utility companies to remove the double pole at the corner of Willow and Kidder Avenues.
13. **196983: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Administration dedicate certain public buildings for community use.
14. **197233: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Commissioner of Public Works direct Verizon to remove unused utility boxes from the side lawn of the West Somerville Neighborhood School, and from the north side of the grounds of the Powderhouse Community School.
15. **197238: Discuss** (White Jr., Lafuente, Sullivan) – That the City Engineer review drainage on Shore Drive, especially with storm water runoff during heavy rains, particularly at the corner of Shore Drive and Putnam Street, as well as the impact of development at Assembly Square on the sewer outflow line.
16. **197277: Discuss** (McWatters) – That the Commissioner of Public Works notify the appropriate utility companies to remove the double pole on Cambria Street.
17. **197428: Discuss** (Connolly, Lafuente) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the

depression in the roadway in the east bound lane on Broadway just past its intersection with School Street.

18. **197429: Discuss** (Connolly, McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the depression in the roadway on Mt. Pleasant Street, just after its intersection with Broadway.
19. **197465: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works notify the appropriate utility company to realign the utility pole in front of 47 Oliver Street.
20. **197472: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Commissioner of Public Works contact NStar about removing the double pole at 72 Curtis Street. (2nd request.)
21. **197489: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board about how utilities inform residents about work on their streets, utility poles or power lines.
22. **197625: Discuss** (White Jr.) – That NStar Electric report to this Board on its preparations to insure sufficient power for the redevelopment of Union Square.
23. **197694: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works assess the adequacy of street lighting along Chester, Fitchburg and Poplar Streets, install additional lighting where needed and repair street lights which are not working on those streets.
24. **197724: Discuss** (Niedergang, Heuston, McWatters) – That the Director of SPCD and the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board on the development, staffing and cost of a program to maintain street trees and keep tree wells clean and weed-free, and/or a program to assist and inspire residents to do so.
25. **197756: Discuss** (Gewirtz) – That the Administration report to this Board on its plan to implement the Tree Advisory Committee that is required by Ordinance 12-100, the Tree Preservation Ordinance.
26. **197773: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works devise a strategy to address instances of low hanging utility/cable wires throughout Somerville.
27. **197917: Discuss** (Lafuente, Heuston, McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works direct all utility companies to clean up their lines throughout the city.

28. **198088: Discuss** (Rossetti, Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr.) – 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.
29. **198109: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Commissioner of Public Works notify the appropriate utility company to remove the double pole in front of 46 Elmwood Street.
30. **198213: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Commissioner of Public Works remove the rotting 10 foot high tree base that is being used to anchor a telephone pole in front of 11 Barton Street.
31. **198386: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works update the Ward 5 Alderman on repairs to prevent pedestrians from tripping in the crosswalks at Linden Avenue on the south side of Summer Street, Aberdeen Road by Highland Avenue, and Hall Street by Cherry Street.
32. **198444: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD (ISD) report to this Board on the process for issuing citations during snowstorms to private plowing and shoveling contractors who are plowing snow into the street or onto neighbors' sidewalks.
33. **199295: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD discuss capitalizing on street repaving to bury utilities, beautify the city, and reduce the threat of power outages due to rain/snow/ice storms.
34. **199369: Discuss** (Gewirtz) – That the Commissioner of Public Works immediately assess the stability of the listing utility pole at 6 Windsor Road and act expeditiously to remediate the double pole.
35. **199547: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of SPCD work with Eversource to remove the unsafe telephone poles secured to rotting trees on Woods Street at North Street, and on Barton Street at Broadway.
36. **199869: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Administration inform the Clark Street neighbors about the TV pipe testing which should have been performed in 2014.
37. **199955: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD (Transportation) consider installing a bollard at the top of the stairs at the Community Path Extension by Lowell Street, to prevent people from accidentally tumbling down the stairs.

38. **199956: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works determine if the lighting at the Community Path Extension ramp and stairs by the Lowell Street bridge is sufficient, and if not, install more.
39. **200136: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works fix the broken pedestrian warning signal for the exit from the Magoun Square CVS onto Medford Street.
40. **200149: Discuss** (Sullivan, McLaughlin, White Jr., Rossetti, Connolly) – That the Commissioner of Public Works plant grass in front of the East Branch Library.
41. **200150: Discuss** (Sullivan, Lafuente, White Jr., Rossetti, Connolly) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the broken street lights on Broadway, from Fellsway West to Grant Street.
42. **200151: Discuss** (Sullivan, Lafuente, White Jr., Rossetti, Connolly) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the broken street lights at 10 Wheatland Street.
43. **200223: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works create clearly defined lines along Walnut Street, by Pearl Street and Broadway, to eliminate two lane traffic problems.
44. **200266: Discuss** (Sullivan) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repaint the faded NO CYCLING markers on sidewalks and install NO BIKE RIDING – PLEASE WALK YOUR BIKE signs in central business districts.
45. **200276: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the clock in the Argenziano School cafeteria which has been broken for the last 5 years.
46. **200440: Discuss** (Connolly, Sullivan, Rossetti, White Jr.) – That the Director of Constituent Services appear before this Board’s Committee on Public Utilities and Works with a written report on streetlamp repairs citywide.
47. **200528: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works provide this Board with a timeline for repair of the backstop behind the large baseball diamond at Trum Field, by Broadway and Charles E. Ryan Road.
48. **200529: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works make needed repairs to Trum Field in time for the spring baseball season.

49. **200637: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD provide all Ward Aldermen with the 2016 street paving plan for all Wards.
50. **200645: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works explain to this Board how to find out when a particular street is scheduled to be re-paved.
51. **200680: Discuss** (White Jr., Lafuente) – That the Commissioner of Public Works appear before the Committee on Public Utilities and Works to address the assistance the City can provide for a city tree root that is growing into the basement of the home at 25 Meacham Street.
52. **200695: Discuss** (McLaughlin, White Jr.) – That the Director of Capital Projects and the Disability Coordinator appear before the Committee on Public Utilities and Works to discuss ADA issues and construction defects at the East Somerville Community School.
53. **200747: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works consider using pet safe salt on city walkways.
54. **200748: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works address the icing on Assembly Row sidewalks.
55. **200772: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works consider installing cigarette butt disposal boxes in public areas citywide.
56. **200773: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works describe to this Board, the rationale for treating multi-unit residences the same as single family residences for purposes of volume-based escalation of water rates.
57. **200874: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Capital Projects advise the Ward 7 Alderman of the start date and schedule for sewer/relining on Powderhouse Blvd.
58. **200882: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Supervisor of Inspectional Services report to this Board on the repair of the sidewalk that is collapsing on Vernon Street, and what precautions are being taken for public safety.
59. **201007: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of SPCD consider replacing the unused concrete bus shelter at Broadway and Cedar Street with a garden, small park or sitting area, and report back by 5/12/16.

60. **201010: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the decorative lamppost that is missing from the stump at Old Magoun’s Saloon in Magoun Square. (2nd request)
61. **201011: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the 3 missing yellow bollards on the east side of the Lowell Street bridge at the Community Path Extension ramp. (2nd request)
62. **201012: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD install pigeon spikes underneath the Lowell Street bridge, above the Community Path Extension. (4th request)
63. **201133: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works contact the appropriate utility to address the low hanging wire on Lincoln Avenue.
64. **201144: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the disintegrating sidewalk at the entrance to the parking lot on Central Street used by the Cambridge Health Alliance, or require them to fix it if it is their responsibility.
65. **201270: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works inform this Board of the options to adjust new LED street lighting, and the process to request such adjustments.
66. **201303: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Director of Engineering and/or the Supervisor of Inspectional Services provide address numbers to the properties on Chestnut Street and notify the property owners to display them on their buildings to facilitate identifying them.
67. **201319: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works remove trash from the north side of the Cambridge Health Alliance parking lot off Central Street and behind Junction Park, and post NO DUMPING signs there.
68. **201423: Discuss** (Sullivan, McLaughlin, White Jr., Connolly, Rossetti) – That the Commissioner of Public Works address the leaning utility pole at the East Somerville Community School on Glen Street.
69. **201473: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and/or the City Solicitor report to this Board on efforts to make the Albion Street sidewalk contractor repair the sidewalks or refund the City, and that the Commissioner of Public Works have the sidewalks repaired and report to this Board on when that will happen.
70. **201499: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works clean the

Community Path between Cedar and Lowell Streets, and consider erecting a barrier to prevent erosion from the hill alongside the path.

71. **201504: Discuss** (Connolly, Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works consider installing an additional street lamp near 27, 31 and 33 Winslow Avenue.
72. **201586: Discuss** (White Jr., Lafuente, Sullivan) – That the Director of SPCD and the Commissioner of Public Works consider creating shade at Grimmons Park and designing future parks with appropriate shade as well.
73. **201612: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works trim all foliage blocking memorial dedication signs, traffic signals, and parking regulation signs.
74. **201618: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of Engineering explain to this Board how to find out when a particular street is scheduled to be re-paved, or provide the city’s street paving list. (3rd request)
75. **201691: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works evaluate the low-hanging lines (from multiple poles) behind 52 Powder House Blvd.
76. **201712: Discuss** (Connolly, Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the brick walkway between Holland Street and College Avenue in Davis Square Plaza.
77. **201713: Discuss** (Connolly, Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works inspect the damaged wall at 93 Pearson Road and take action to remedy the situation.
78. **201701: Discuss** (Sullivan, Lafuente, White Jr.) – That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the 3 raised sidewalk panels at 61 Dartmouth Street. (2nd request)
79. **201767: Discuss** (Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan) – That the Superintendent of Inspectional Services direct Healey School staff to keep the grounds clean and properly dispose of trash, due to increased rodent activity around the school.
80. **201771: Discuss** (Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan, Rossetti) – That the Commissioner of Public Works remove all brush from the Mystic River along Shore Drive.
81. **201778: Discuss** (Connolly, Sullivan, Rossetti, White Jr., Davis) – That the Commissioner of Public Works direct Eversource to immediately remove the heavy plant overgrowth at the

transfer station at Willow Avenue and Whipple Street.

82. **201795: Discuss** (Niedergang, Heuston) – That the Commissioner of Public Works clean the Sacramento Street ramp that runs beneath the railroad tracks and confirm the regular maintenance schedule previously agreed to.
83. **201797: Discuss** (Niedergang, McWatters) – That the Director of Engineering add Porter Street, between Summer and Elm Streets, to the 5-year paving plan, and include the streets off the west side of Porter Street, especially Carver Street.
84. **201826: Discuss** (Rossetti, Ballantyne, White Jr., Sullivan, Connolly) – That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the black hot topped sidewalk at 985-987 Broadway with concrete and explain why Eversource claims they are not allowed to use concrete when replacing an opened sidewalk.
85. **201830: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Commissioner of Public Works cut down the rotting 12 foot stump at 7 Barton Street.
86. **201906: Discuss** (McWatters, Niedergang) – That the Commissioner of Public Works direct the contractor who recently did work on Porter Street to repair and resurface the sink hole that is beginning to develop on Summer and Porter Streets.
87. **201908: Discuss** (McWatters) – That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalk panels from Properzi Manner to Bow Street as they have become a public safety hazard.
88. **202029: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Director of SPCD, the Director of Capital Planning, and the City Engineer create a timeline from September 2016 to September 2019 for streetscape reconstruction projects in Ward 2 and post the timeline on the city's website with continual updates as changes occur.
89. **202032: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the City Engineer and the Director of SPCD report back to the Ward 2 Alderman on repairing the sidewalk on the Dane Street bridge and the wooden slats on the Webster Avenue/Newton Street Bridge, and on communications with the responsible State agencies.
90. **202034: Discuss** (McWatters) – That the Director of SPCD add Avon Street to the paving list.

- 91. 202082: Discuss** (Heuston, Ballantyne, Rossetti) – That the Commissioner of Public Works, the Superintendent of Inspectional Services and the City Engineer report to this Board, the process for obtaining permission for a curb cut, including provisions made to ensure that the city’s ordinances are followed.
- 92. 202096: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Chief of Police report to this Board whether their departments bring claims against, or cite, motorists who damage city trees.
- 93. 200192: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 9/24/15.
- 94. 200560: Discuss** Traffic and Parking Director submitting responses to various Board Orders submitted 11/24/15.
- 95. 200759: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 1/14/16.
- 96. 200760: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 1/28/16.
- 97. 200853: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 2/11/16 and 2/25/16.
- 98. 200989: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 3/10/16.
- 99. 201198: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 3/24/16.
- 100.201345: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 4/14/16.
- 101.201445: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 4/28/16.
- 102.201571: Discuss** DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 5/12/16.

103.201572: Discuss DPW Commissioner responding to supplemental Board Orders submitted 5/12/16.

104.201573: Discuss DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted this evening.

105.201750: Discuss DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 6/9/16.

106.201815: Discuss DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 6/23/16.