

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

April 28, 2020, 7:00 PM
Meeting by Remote Participation

NOTICE

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, 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.

Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7245507155530625295>.

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # 22957)
2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # 22958)
3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March
(ID # 22960) 26, 2020.

CITATIONS

4. Citation By City Councilor McLaughlin, Rossetti, Mbah, White
(ID # 22894) Jr., Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis,
 Ballantyne
 Commending Stephanie Hirsch for her exemplary
 service to the City, in response to her resignation from
 the City Council.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. Grant of Submitted by Comcast to install 6 feet of conduit in the
Location intersection of Linwood and Poplar Streets, from an
(ID # 22959) existing Comcast manhole to a new manhole, then
 continuing with another 46 feet of conduit to a point of
 pickup at 135 Linwood Street.

6. Grant of Location (ID # 22961) Submitted by Verizon to install 10 feet of conduit in Medford Street, from existing conduit near Ward Street to pole 228/8-1 near the rear of 39R Medford Street.
7. Grant of Location (ID # 22962) Submitted by Verizon to install 10 feet of conduit in Medford Street, from Manhole #101 to existing conduit at the intersection of Medford Street and Bartlett Street.
8. Grant of Location (ID # 22963) Submitted by Verizon to install 63 feet of conduit in Broadway, from Manhole #437 to an existing handhole near 546 Broadway.
9. Withdrawn (ID # 22965) Withdrawn.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

10. Resolution (ID # 22943) By City Councilor Mbah Supporting House bill 5036 and Senate bill 2916, An Act to Provide Equal Stimulus Checks to Immigrant Taxpayers.
11. Resolution (ID # 22906) By City Councilor Mbah That the Administration update this Council on what is being done to help communities of color during this COVID-19 pandemic.
12. Resolution (ID # 22907) By City Councilor Mbah That the Administration update this council on what is being done to help the homeless, who are most at risk during this COVID-19 pandemic.
13. Resolution (ID # 22905) By City Councilor Rossetti That the Administration implement mandatory wearing of facial masks when in a public setting.
14. Communication (ID # 22897) By City Councilor Rossetti Reporting on the High School Building Committee meeting of April 13, 2020.
15. Order (ID # 22952) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Director of Mobility update this Council on that Division's work over the past few months and plans for the rest of the spring and summer.
16. Resolution (ID # 22953) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Administration nominate Robert Buchannan for the open Planning Board seat, to elevate him from an Alternate to a full voting member.

17. Communication (ID # 22951) By City Councilor Niedergang Reporting on the discussions and decisions of the Traffic Commission during the first four months of 2020.
18. Resolution (ID # 22954) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin, Scott That the Administration appropriate funds from the dedicated Union Square Community Benefits Contributions to support two outside staff positions, one for job placement/workforce development services and one for local small business services, similar to the Community Benefits Agreement recommendations and now particularly urgent due to the COVID-19 crisis.
19. Order (ID # 22955) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin, Scott That the Director of SPCD and US2 appear before the Committee on Housing and Community Development to discuss progress towards an affordable housing project on Block D4.3.
20. Order (ID # 22956) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Clingan, McLaughlin That the Administration work with the GLX contractors to increase and improve abutter notifications regarding particularly disruptive work, given that residents are required to be in their homes all day.
21. Order (ID # 22942) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Communications increase awareness of public hearings for Land Use, Zoning Board and Planning Board meetings, to increase transparency.
22. Communication (ID # 22967) By City Councilor McLaughlin In his capacity as President, conveying updated Standing and Special Committee assignments and Commission appointments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

23. Resolution 209284 By City Councilor Scott Supporting House Resolution 702, The People's Justice Guarantee.
24. License/Permit 209973 New Extended Hours License, Dunkin Donuts, 282 Somerville Avenue, for 24/7 operation for in-store and take-out service only.
25. Grant of Location 209992 Submitted by Eversource to install 56 feet of conduit in the intersection of Linden Avenue and Elm Street from Pole 112/6A to a point of pickup at 36 Elm Street.

- 26. Grant of Location 209993 Submitted by Eversource to install 72 feet of conduit in Oak Street from utility pole 258/2 to a point of pickup at 5 Oak Street.
- 27. Grant of Location 209994 Submitted by Eversource to install 21 feet of conduit in Clyde Street from utility pole 74/4 to a point of pickup at 28 Clyde Street.
- 28. Grant of Location 209995 Submitted by Eversource to install 35 feet of conduit in Garfield Avenue from pole 139/2 to a point of pickup at 6 Garfield Avenue.
- 29. Grant of Location 209996 Submitted by Eversource to install 138 feet of conduit in Somerville Avenue and Laurel Street from Manhole #8639 to a new Manhole #30989 on Laurel Street, then install 36 feet of conduit from that manhole to a point of pickup at the rear of 515 Somerville Avenue.
- 30. Grant of Location 209997 Submitted by Eversource to install 70 feet of conduit in Broadway from manhole #2572 to a new handhole in front of Trum Field.
- 31. Grant of Location 209998 Submitted by Eversource to install 80 feet of conduit in Broadway from manhole #2569 to a new handhole at the intersection of Broadway and Dexter Street.
- 32. Order 210031 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Scott, Rossetti, Davis, McLaughlin, Niedergang, White Jr., Hirsch, Clingan, Ewen-Campen, Mbah
That the Election Commissioner discuss mailing absentee applications to registered voters for the upcoming primary and general elections.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

33. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22900) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on April 15, 2020.
- B. Resolution 209158 By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Mayor appoint a member from the Commission of Energy Use and Climate Change to the Planning Board and Design Review Committee, to provide their expertise on these bodies.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- C. Mayor's Request 209701 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jahan Habib to the Planning Board.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- D. Mayor's Request 209702 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Ella Samson to the Planning Board.
RECOMMENDED: Not Approved.
- E. Mayor's Request 209703 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Sam Dinning to the Planning Board.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- F. Mayor's Request 209704 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Rob Buchanan as an Alternate to the Planning Board.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- G. Resolution (ID # 22941) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Administration advise this Council at its April 28, 2020 meeting, why the four candidates for the Planning Board were placed into those particular slots.

34. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22902) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on April 22, 2020.
- B. Mayor's Request 208709 Requesting the appropriation of \$36,000 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation- Parking Meter Receipts Account to the Parking Department Rentals Account, to lease temporary parking spaces resulting from the High School construction project.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- C. Mayor's Request 209742 Requesting a transfer of \$49,431 from the E-911 Salaries Account to the Department of Transportation Salaries Account, to establish new positions in the Department.
RECOMMENDED: Kept in Committee.
- D. Mayor's Request 209743 Requesting a transfer of \$30,000 from the E-911 Salaries Account to Department of Transportation Office Equipment and Professional and Technical Services Accounts.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- E. Mayor's Request 209744 Requesting a transfer of \$10,592 from the E-911 Salaries Account to the Constituent Services Salaries Account to establish the position of Quality Assurance and Improvement Manager.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.

- F. Mayor's Request 209827 Requesting an appropriation of \$200,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Capital Projects Division Capital Outlay Engineering/Architectural Services Account to design an elevator from the High School field level to the Community Path being constructed by the MBTA GLX project.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- G. Mayor's Request 209980 Requesting the acceptance of the First Amendment to the Sanitary Sewer Easement Agreement with the City of Cambridge for work in Medford Street.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

35. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22899) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on April 14, 2020.

36. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22903) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on April 23, 2020.
- B. Mayor's Request 209771 Requesting approval of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to correct procedural requirements, unintended conflicts between regulations, numerical errors, or inadvertent omissions.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- C. Order 209790 By City Councilor Scott, Ewen-Campen That this Council modify or eliminate the Zoning Ordinance's Use Limitations for parcels that front a Pedestrian Street in various locations such as 4.1.13.b, 4.3.13.b, 5.1.15.b, etc.
RECOMMENDED: Discharged w/no Recommendation
- D. Mayor's Request 209825 Requesting approval of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to extend the validity time frame of previously issued permits, clarify how lot coverage is calculated, correct the threshold for employment linkage, and streamline the language concerning landscape buffers.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

37. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22898) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on April 13, 2020.

- B. Order 210000 By City Councilor Mbah
That Director of Health and Human services provide this Council with evidence-based research on handling postal mail without protective equipment with respect to the spread of the coronavirus.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 210032 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Clingan, Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin
That the Chief of Police discuss what may be done to curb domestic and partner violence especially during the COVID-19 crisis, as victims are quarantined with their abusers.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 210033 By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Director of Health and Human Services explain the current protocol for notifying residents of positive COVID-19 tests and contacts and how services may be offered that allow them to receive treatment, maintain household stability, and isolate themselves as needed.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Order 210034 By City Councilor Hirsch, Scott
That the Board of Assessors extend the deadline for applications for Residential and/or Statutory Exemptions beyond the current April 1 deadline.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

38. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22901) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on April 21, 2020.

39. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22904) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on April 27, 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

40. Mayor's Request (ID # 22634) Requesting approval of amendments to the Condominium/Cooperative Conversion Ordinance with the specific amended language attached.
41. Mayor's Request (ID # 22893) Requesting approval of the attached Order of Taking of 31 Tufts Street.
42. Mayor's Request (ID # 22949) Requesting an appropriation of \$200,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to design an elevator from the High School field level to the Community Path at Medford Street.

- 43. Mayor's Request (ID # 22950) Requesting the transfer of \$94,015 from the Parking Department Repairs to Highway Account to the IAM Engineering Division Repairs to Highway Account, to provide pavement marking services.
- 44. Mayor's Request (ID # 22892) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Christine Lindgren to the Licensing Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

NEW BUSINESS

- 45. License/Permit (ID # 22908) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Caruso Corp.
- 46. License/Permit (ID # 22909) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Legacy Building and Development.
- 47. License/Permit (ID # 22910) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Jason Anthony.
- 48. License/Permit (ID # 22911) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Mirra.
- 49. License/Permit (ID # 22912) Renewing Drainlayer's License, JR and Sons Construction.
- 50. License/Permit (ID # 22939) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Brennan Construction.
- 51. License/Permit (ID # 22940) Renewing Drainlayer's License, LaMountain Brothers.
- 52. License/Permit (ID # 22964) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Celiberti Realty.
- 53. License/Permit (ID # 22966) Renewing Drainlayer's License, McCourt Construction.
- 54. License/Permit (ID # 22913) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Kealey Excavation.
- 55. License/Permit (ID # 22914) Renewing Flammables License, Keolis Commuter Services, 132 Washington St.

56. License/Permit (ID # 22915) Renewing Flammables License, Keolis Commuter Services, 23R Inner Belt Rd.
57. License/Permit (ID # 22916) Renewing Flammables License, Keolis Commuter Services, 70R Third Ave.
58. License/Permit (ID # 22917) Renewing Flammables License, Lub-O-Line #529, 9 Florence St.
59. License/Permit (ID # 22918) Renewing Flammables License, Lub-O-Line #849, 9 Florence St.
60. License/Permit (ID # 22919) Renewing Flammables License, Cubby Oil, 20 Medford St.
61. License/Permit (ID # 22920) Renewing Flammables License, Somerville Gas and Service, 16 Medford St.
62. License/Permit (ID # 22921) Renewing Flammables License, Simon's Auto Service, 166 Boston Ave.
63. License/Permit (ID # 22938) Renewing Flammables License, Broadway Gulf, 212 Broadway.
64. License/Permit (ID # 22922) Renewing Flammables License, Aris Auto, 3 Craigie St.
65. License/Permit (ID # 22924) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 445 Artisan Way.
66. License/Permit (ID # 22925) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 355 Artisan Way.
67. License/Permit (ID # 22926) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 333 Great River Rd.
68. License/Permit (ID # 22927) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 479 Canal St.
69. License/Permit (ID # 22923) Renewing Garage License, Broadway Motor Cars, 161 Broadway.
70. License/Permit (ID # 22928) Renewing Garage License, Tech Auto Body, 9 Union Sq.
71. License/Permit (ID # 22929) Renewing Garage License, Master Used Cars, 121 Prospect St.

- 72. License/Permit (ID # 22930) Renewing Garage License, Somerville Housing Group Trust III, 481 Columbia St.
- 73. License/Permit (ID # 22931) Renewing Garage License, Aris Auto, 3 Craigie St.
- 74. License/Permit (ID # 22932) Renewing Garage License, Simon's Auto Service, 166 Boston Ave.
- 75. License/Permit (ID # 22933) Renewing Garage License, Webster Auto Body, 69 Webster Ave.
- 76. License/Permit (ID # 22934) Renewing Garage License, Webster Auto Body, 64 Webster Ave.
- 77. License/Permit (ID # 22935) Renewing Garage License, Original Auto Body and Mechanic, 12 Joy St.
- 78. License/Permit (ID # 22946) Renewing Garage License, Fellsway Auto Repair, 693 McGrath Hwy.
- 79. License/Permit (ID # 22947) Renewing Garage License, Gene Automotive Repair, 56 Joy St.
- 80. License/Permit (ID # 22936) Renewing Junk Dealer's License, Kay Jewelers, 360 Artisan Way.
- 81. License/Permit (ID # 22937) Renewing Outdoor Parking License, Simon's Auto Service, 166 Boston Ave.
- 82. License/Permit (ID # 22945) Renewing Hawker and Peddler License, Chiki Galvez.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 83. Order (ID # 22968) By City Councilor Clingan
That the Commissioner of Public Works fill the pothole on Thurston Street by Broadway.
- 84. Order (ID # 22969) By City Councilor Clingan
That the Commissioner of Public Works consider placing receptacles for discarded latex gloves and masks.

85. Order (ID # 22970) By City Councilor Clingan
That the Director of Health and Human Services collaborate with the appropriate state agencies for the support, specialized services, medical supplies and personal protective equipment necessary for residents with complex medical needs to stay in their homes during this COVID-19 crisis.
86. Order (ID # 22971) By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Director of Health and Human Services explain how the pandemic and related closures may be affecting rodent activity or any planned eradication strategies.
87. Order (ID # 22972) By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Director of SPCD make the changes listed within to SomerVision 2040.
88. Order (ID # 22974) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Administration's weekly update on COVID-19 include a dedicated update from the Police Department on the implementation of the mandatory mask policy, and what steps are being taken to ensure that enforcement is fair and unbiased.
89. Resolution (ID # 22975) By City Councilor Niedergang, and the Mayor
Urging adoption of Senate Bill 2654 (formerly S.2912/H.5026), "An Act establishing vote by mail in 2020," which would implement comprehensive voting by mail for all statewide elections in 2020.
90. Order (ID # 22976) By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Director of Finance provide a written monthly rolling cash flow analysis during this COVID-19 emergency and include forecasts to ensure sufficient operating liquidity by estimating the available cash deposits, expected inflows, and required disbursements.
91. Order (ID # 22977) By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Director of SPCD add the attached changes into the SomerVision 2040 draft.
92. Mayor's Request (ID # 22973) Requesting the appropriation of \$247,242 from the Salary and Wage Stabilization Fund to various Departmental Accounts to fund the FY20 salary and benefit provisions in the Agreement with SMEA Unit D.
93. License/Permit (ID # 22978) Public Event License, Davis Sq Farmers Market, Day St-Herbert St Parking Lot, Wednesdays May 20 - Nov 25, 8AM-7PM.

94. License/Permit (ID # 22979) Public Event License, Union Sq Farmers Market, Union Sq Plaza and Parking Lot, Saturdays May 16-Nov 21, 7AM-2PM.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT