



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

November 4, 2019

REPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Chair	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Vice Chair	Present	
Jesse Clingan	Ward Four City Councilor	Present	
Wilfred N. Mbah	City Councilor at Large	Absent	
Mary Jo Rossetti	City Councilor at Large	Absent	

Others present: Annie Connor, Nancy Salamoun, Brian Postelwaite, Lt. Timothy Mitsakis, Sgt. Scott Whalen, and Finn Gardiner

The meeting was held in the Committee Room and was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Scott and adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Approval of the October 7, 2019 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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209088: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Bonnie Denis to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.

Ms. Salamoun stated that Ms. Denis was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Ms. Denis is usually the first person to volunteer and is very outspoken. She is currently involved with SomerVision 2040.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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209089: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Finn Gardner to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.

Ms. Salamoun stated that Mr. Gardiner has been a very active member since 2016.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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209090: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Brian Postlewaite to the

Commission for Persons with Disabilities.

Ms. Salamoun introduced Mr. Postlewaite who is also the city's engineer. It was stated that historically, someone from the city will sit on this commission. It was also stated that Mr. Postlewaite has expertise, technical skills and has also worked on other commissions.

RESULT:

APPROVED

209091: Requesting the re-appointment of Catello Battinelli II as Constable.

The constables for reappointment were not invited to attend tonight's meeting. Lt. Mitsakis and Sgt. Whalen answered questions from the committee on items 5-7 regarding reappointing constables. They discussed the process for evaluating constables that included: criminal record check, reviewing issues in past year, local in-house check, any interaction with police and check with regional partners. Councilor Ewen-Campen asked if constables are armed and where would someone lodge a complaint against a constable. It was also stated that constables are not employees of the police department and are listed as independent contractors.

There were discussions about implementing a new process for constables and housing police. Housing police must complete an application every year that would help identify any issues. The number of constables has been diminishing over the years. Sheriffs are legally allowed to serve as constables. If constables are not renewed by the end of the year, they cannot serve papers. Councilor Ewen-Campen would like the new process to be completed before approving constables. It was stated that there are currently seven (7) constables to be renewed before the end of the year. Councilors Scott and/or Ewen-Campen will work with Lt. Mitsakis to finalize the new process for constables.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

209092: Requesting the re-appointment of Mary Battinelli as Constable.

See discussion of item 209091.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

209093: Requesting the re-appointment of Alan Bishop as Constable.

See discussion of item 209091.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

209158: 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.

Ms. Connor stated she had not heard about this item until the order was put in. It was stated that the Planning Board and Design Review Committee do not have anyone with expertise in climate change. The Chair had previously rejected many reappointments that did not have necessary expertise for the Planning Board and Design Review Committee. Ms. Connor stated that it has been difficult to get people to apply to the Planning Board. Ms. Connor also stated that the

Administration is doing an active recruiting process. The Chair will ask Councilor Ballantyne to follow up with Ms. Connor.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

208703: Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition to authorize the City to appoint Police Cadets under certain circumstances.

Ms. Connor stated that other staff members were not available to discuss this item tonight.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

Handouts:

- Resume - B Postlewaite (with 209090)
- Resume - F Gardiner (with 209089)