



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee

Regular Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 8, 2023

6:00 PM

Virtual

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3440695570016146011>

(Posted online: 4/6/23 at 3:00 PM)

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.

Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3440695570016146011>

Roll Call

1. Committee Minutes (ID # 23-0263) **Approval Review:** Approval of the Minutes of the Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee Meeting of February 16, 2023.
2. Order (ID # [23-0217](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Pineda Neufeld
That the Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry, the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment, and the Director of Communications and Community Engagement discuss with this Council, opportunities to increase communication and education of residents on the impact of black swallow-wort and how to effectively remove and dispose of it.
3. Order (ID # [22-0828](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Wilson, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Clingan and Councilor Pineda Neufeld
That the Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry update this Council on plans to dramatically increase the number of trees in Foss Park.
4. Order (ID # [22-0687](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Scott
That the appropriate staff update this Council on the status of the community gardens and discuss opportunities to create a mutual aid garden.

5. Order
(ID # [22-0569](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad
That the Director of Planning & Zoning and the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment report on strategies to integrate and implement photovoltaics, weatherization, and electrification in Historic Properties.
6. Order
(ID # [22-0951](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Kelly and Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Sustainability and Environment update this Council on any plans for a municipal composting program.
7. Order
(ID # [22-0565](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Kelly and Councilor Gomez Mouakad
That the Director of Inspectional Services report to this Council on the average time it takes for residents to have solar panels installed, identify the bottlenecks in this process, and discuss how this process can be streamlined and accelerated.
8. Order
(ID # [22-0274](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Gomez Mouakad and Councilor Scott
That the Director of Housing and the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment work with the Somerville Community Corporation to explore funding and rebates available for weatherization and other sustainability measures.