



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

January 25, 2017

REPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS
COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Maryann M. Heuston	Chair	Present	
Robert J. McWatters	Vice Chair	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Alderman at Large	Present	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six Alderman	Present	

Others present: Alderman Niedergang, Michael Glavin - OSPCD, Annie Connor - Legislative Liason, Charles Sillari - Clerk of Committees.

The meeting took place in the Committee Room and was called to order at 6:06 PM by Alderman Heuston and adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Approval of the November 7, 2016 Minutes

RESULT: ACCEPTED

202379: Requesting the appointment of Cristina DeWeese to the Commission for Women.

Ms. DeWeese stated that she wants to be involved in the community and loves being in a sanctuary city.

RESULT: APPROVED

202380: Requesting the re-appointment of Daisy Monsalve to the Commission for Women.

RESULT: APPROVED

202452: Requesting the appointment of Kat Rutkin to the Commission for Women.

Ms. Rutkin spoke about her experience with feminism. She was the director of Local First and currently works with new mom's health.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202453: Requesting the re-appointment of Katherine M. Wallace to the Commission for Women.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202454: Requesting the re-appointment of Marlena Erdos to the Commission for Women.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202455: Requesting the re-appointment of Melissa Alfone to the Commission for Women.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202655: Requesting confirmation of Christopher Hosman as Executive Director of the Women's Commission.

Mr. Hosman discussed his reasoning for wanting the position, saying that he is working on child care and doesn't want women to move backwards. He also pointed out that housing is an issue for single mothers. Alderman Rossetti commented that people on the commission speak highly of him.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202647: Requesting the confirmation of Rich Raiche as City Engineer.

Mr. Raiche said he started the week of Thanksgiving 2016. Alderman McWatters asked about the sewer system and Mr. Raiche said it needs work but there are a lot of opportunities. He also said that there are more cost effective ways to solve the city's problems. Chairman Heuston said she appreciated the candidate's experience and Alderman Davis is impressed by the experience as well.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202663: Requesting the appointment of Housing Authority employee Daniel J. Meade as a Special police Officer.

Mr. Meade's appointment is for the position of Chief of the Housing Authority Police. He was born and raised in Somerville and worked for the US Marshall Service, ultimately retiring from the Bureau of ATF. Mr. Meade explained what his role will be and who he will be overseeing.

Alderman Davis asked how many direct reports he had under him in his last job. He would like more detail in the candidate's package, such as a job description. Alderman Davis is not comfortable with the fact that people are usually already on the job before their appointments are approved. Chairman Heuston requested that the Housing Authority provide the committee with the job description for this position. Alderman McWatters spoke highly of the candidate, adding that he grew up with him in the city.

RESULT:

APPROVED

202664: Requesting the appointment of Jessica Palacios Yamakawa to the Community Preservation Committee.

Ms. Yanakawa explained why she wants to be on the commission. Mr. Dick Bauer, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Committee, spoke on her behalf and the selection process.

RESULT:

APPROVED

202692: Requesting the confirmation of Ron Bonney as Superintendent of Fleet Management.

Mr. Bonney spoke about the goals for the department, training for employees, hybrid vehicles and clean diesel engines. The department works out of two garages and is currently short 2 people. Alderman Rossetti is concerned about the budget and would like to see savings in the department. Mr. Bonney explained how savings could be achieved.

Chairman Heuston asked that the administration to provide the grade level of this position and all positions going forward.

RESULT:

APPROVED

202693: Requesting the appointment of William Roche as Municipal Hearing Officer.

Mr. Roche said that this position involves the appealing of all non-criminal tickets issued by the city, with the exception of parking tickets. Hearings are held on alternate Wednesday nights at City Hall. Alderman Rossetti asked about the need for translators and Mr. Roche said some individuals bring someone to interpret for them. The associated stipend for the position is a flat rate.

RESULT:

APPROVED

202694: Requesting the appointment of Anne Tate to the Somerville Redevelopment Authority.

Chairman Heuston and Alderman McWatters spoke highly of Ms. Tate's ability.

RESULT:

APPROVED

202698: Requesting confirmation of appointment of Maren Chiu to the Board of Library Trustees.

Ms. Chiu said strong libraries are important and they help to level the playing field. Alderman Davis spoke very highly of the candidate and said that she would be a tremendous asset.

RESULT:

APPROVED