



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 14, 2022

7:00 PM

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the City Council's minutes. While reasonable efforts have been made to assure the accuracy of the data provided, do not rely on this information without first checking with the City Clerk.

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin.

Present: City Councilor At Large Willie Burnley Jr.
City Councilor At Large Charlotte Kelly
City Councilor At Large Kristen Strezo
City Councilor At Large Jake Wilson
Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin
Ward Two City Councilor Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott
Ward Three City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen
Ward Four City Councilor Jesse Clingan
Ward Seven City Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Beatriz Gomez Mouakad
Ward Six City Councilor Lance L. Davis

1.1. Roll Call
214062
(ID # [22-0230](#))

Call of the Roll.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

1.2. Remembrances
214063
(ID # [22-0232](#))

Remembrances.

President McLaughlin and Councilor Clingan requested a moment of silence for Danny McInnis.

RESULT: APPROVED

1.3. Minutes
214064
(ID # [22-0233](#))

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, June 9, 2022.

RESULT: APPROVED

2. CITATIONS

- 2.1. Citation 214065 (ID # [22-0231](#))
By Matthew McLaughlin
Commending Frank Wright on the occasion of his retirement from the Law Department after over 22 years of distinguished service.
President McLaughlin spoke about the cooperation extended by City Solicitor Frank Wright and wished him well as he leaves his position.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 2.2. Citation 214066 (ID # [22-0234](#))
By Matthew McLaughlin
Commending Eileen McGettigan on the occasion of her retirement from the Law Department after 10 years of distinguished service.
President McLaughlin spoke about the cooperation extended by Special Counsel Eileen McGettigan and congratulated her on her retirement.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 2.3. Citation 214067 (ID # [22-0235](#))
By Matthew McLaughlin
Commending George Proakis on his selection as City Manager of Watertown.
President McLaughlin congratulated George Proakis as he moves on to a position in Watertown. Mr. Proakis thanked everyone for their dedication and time given to the city and said that OSPCD remains in good hands.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 2.4. Citation 214068 (ID # [22-0242](#))
By Matthew McLaughlin
Commending Mary Skipper on her selection as Superintendent of Boston Public Schools.
RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Ordinance 214069 (ID # [22-0246](#))
By Ben Ewen-Campen and Jesse Clingan and Jake Wilson and Willie Burnley, Jr. and Charlotte Kelly
Proposing Amendments to the Neighborhood Council Designation Ordinance (Chapter 7, Article IX) to encourage the formation of such neighborhood councils.
Councilor Ewen-Campen spoke about the process leading up to the establishment of Neighborhood Councils. He and Councilor Clingan have prepared a draft that they would like to take up in committee. The purpose is to encourage community groups to develop in open and transparent ways. The draft has been shared with the neighborhood group and their feedback will be considered.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

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- 4.2. Resolution
214070
(ID # [22-0247](#))
- By Ben Ewen-Campen and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott and Jake Wilson
That the Administration work with this Council to ensure that the GLX Construction project is held accountable for the damage caused to backyards along Willoughby Street.
- Councilor Ewen-Campen explained that the GLX excavation wasn't shored up, resulting in residents fences sliding down. GLX officials have been unresponsive to the residents' concerns.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- 4.3. Order
214071
(ID # [22-0378](#))
- By Kristen Strezo and Jake Wilson and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott
That the City Solicitor provide an opinion on the legality of landlords including non-disclosure agreements in leases.
- Councilor Strezo said she is concerned that these agreements might be detrimental to renters in the city and she would like to explore the options the city might take to protect residents.
- RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee
- 4.4. Order
214072
(ID # [22-0251](#))
- By Kristen Strezo
That the Director of Economic Development discuss the ability of small businesses to access loading zones in heavy traffic areas while outdoor dining is present.
- Councilor Strezo noted that some restaurants are struggling to receive deliveries.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- 4.5. Order
214073
(ID # [22-0252](#))
- By Kristen Strezo
That the Director of Communications create an annual fall campaign to inform the public about the "Dutch Reach" to prevent cyclist injuries.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- 4.6. Order
214074
(ID # [22-0410](#))
- By Kristen Strezo and Judy Pineda Neufeld
That the Director of Health and Human services discuss the potential effects of the recent Supreme Court ruling on Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health on Somerville women, pregnant women, pregnant people and reproductive health.
- Councilor Strezo said the recent Supreme Court ruling on abortion was an attack on women's reproductive health.
- RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**
FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populator
- 4.7. Order
214075
(ID # [22-0411](#))
- By Kristen Strezo
That the Chief of Police provide this Council with the number of rape kits administered in the past five years, and the number that were included as evidence in court cases.
- RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**
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FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populator

- 4.8. Resolution
214076
(ID # [22-0136](#))

By Kristen Strezo
That the Middlesex County District Attorney provide this Council with the number of rape kits tested and the number used as evidence in Somerville court cases over the past five years.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populator

- 4.9. Resolution
214077
(ID # [22-0259](#))

By Kristen Strezo and Willie Burnley, Jr.
That the Administration schedule a Commissions and Boards Recruitment Fair once per season with a focus on reaching underrepresented residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 4.10. Order
214078
(ID # [22-0260](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Jake Wilson and Kristen Strezo
That the Commissioner of Public Works install additional lighting near the Union Square MBTA stop crosswalk to increase visibility at night.

Councilors Burnley, Strezo, Kelly and Wilson have all received complaints from constituents on this matter.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 4.11. Order
214079
(ID # [22-0261](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Matthew McLaughlin and Jake Wilson and Charlotte Kelly
That the Commissioner of Public Works install and maintain a port-a-potty in Chuckie Harris Park.

Councilor Burnley thinks that facilities should be available where unhoused people tend to congregate, such as Chuckie Harris Park. Councilor Kelly encouraged councilors to contact HHS for placement of port-a-potties. Councilor Burnley spoke about the need to care for less fortunate people in the city and meeting their most basic needs.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 4.12. Order
214080
(ID # [22-0262](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works discuss with this Council, the number of portable toilets that can be deployed in critical areas.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 4.13. Order
214081
(ID # [22-0263](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr.
That the Director of Health and Human Services, with expertise from the Somerville Homeless Coalition, draft a written report for this Council detailing which areas most severely need public restrooms accommodations and how the Administration will meet those needs.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 4.14. Order
214082
(ID # [22-0137](#))
- By Willie Burnley, Jr.
That the ADA Coordinator coordinate with the City of Cambridge or another nearby entity that can provide Braille translations in less than 3 to 4 weeks until the City can procure a Braille.
- Councilor Burnley spoke about the need to accommodate blind individuals in the city and said that under the city's plan, it would take 3-4 weeks to have a documented translated into Braille. He noted that the City of Cambridge has a Braille machine and he would like Somerville to make an effort to use it.
- RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**
FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations
- 4.15. Order
214083
(ID # [22-0388](#))
- By Willie Burnley, Jr.
That the Chief of Police provide this Council with a written report on the number of calls for service related to un-housed individuals, the nature of those calls, and the number directed toward or responded to in collaboration with the Somerville Homeless Coalition.
- RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee
- 4.16. Order
214084
(ID # [22-1308](#))
- By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Jake Wilson and Charlotte Kelly and Kristen Strezo
That the Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry provide this Council with a map detailing the locations of all Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS) and the policies that this Council could adopt to mandate that POPS conspicuously display signage stating that the area is available to the public.
- Councilor Burnley commented that the city has such spaces, yet they remain largely inaccessible. He would like to increase the availability of these spaces to the public.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- 4.17. Resolution
214085
(ID # [22-0265](#))
- By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Ben Ewen-Campen and Charlotte Kelly and Jake Wilson and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott and Jesse Clingan and Judy Pineda Neufeld and Kristen Strezo and Matthew McLaughlin
That the Administration provide transparency in its use of funds by creating a page on the website to track ARPA money received and expended, for what purposes, and how residents may request that funds be allocated for a particular purpose.
- Councilor Burnley spoke about the lack of transparency with regard to ARPA funds.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- 4.18. Resolution
214086
(ID # [22-0266](#))
- By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Matthew McLaughlin and Jesse Clingan and Ben Ewen-Campen and Charlotte Kelly and Jake Wilson and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott and Judy Pineda Neufeld and Kristen Strezo
In Support of Funding a Supervised Consumption Site.

Councilor Burnley commented that this has been an important issue for the city for several years. He stated that legislation is being discussed which would allow for a pilot program to be implemented. He noted that 108 Somerville residents have died from opioid abuse over the past several years.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 4.19. Communication
214087
(ID # [22-0267](#))

By Matthew McLaughlin
In his capacity as President, conveying an updated list of Standing and Special Committee assignments.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- 4.20. Communication
214088
(ID # [22-0268](#))

By Matthew McLaughlin
In his capacity as President, cancelling this Council's Regular meetings scheduled for July 28 and August 11.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- 4.21. Communication
214089
(ID # [22-0269](#))

By Matthew McLaughlin
In his capacity as President, rescheduling the Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday October 27, 2022 to Tuesday October 25, 2022 to accommodate early voting.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

6.A. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- 6.A.1. Committee Report 214090
(ID # [22-1314](#))

Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on June 29, 2022.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld presented the Committee Report and briefly spoke about the appointments that were before the committee that evening. Two of the Police Department appointments, previously approved and returned to committee, were approved. Councilor Scott moved to sever item #214034 from the committee report. The item was severed and came before the Council. Councilor Scott said he has concerns and would like to table the item until a future date when an Executive Session may be held. The motion was approved. Councilor Scott motioned that the candidate be notified of the Executive Session. The motion was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.A.2. Mayor's Request 213393
(ID # [22-0617](#))

Mayor requesting confirmation of the appointment of William Ruocco to the position of Police Officer.

RESULT: WITHDRAWN

- 6.A.3. Mayor's Request 213395
(ID # [22-0619](#))
- Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Gianna Ferrara to the position of Police Officer.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.A.4. Mayor's Request 213396
(ID # [22-620](#))
- Mayor requesting confirmation of the appointment of Keighla McAloney to the position of Police Officer.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.A.5. Mayor's Request 214034
(ID # [22-28964](#))
- Mayor requesting confirmation of the promotion of Timothy Van Nostrand to the position of Police Sergeant.

RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE

- 6.A.6. Mayor's Request 214035
(ID # [22-28968](#))
- Mayor requesting confirmation of the appointment of Katherine Garavaglia to the position of Full Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.B. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 6.B.1. Committee Report 214091
(ID # [22-1315](#))
- Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on July 12, 2022.

Councilor Wilson presented the Committee Report and summarized the actions taken on several items, including GLX funds and several grants. Councilor Kelly moved to sever items #213854 & #213854 from the Committee report. The items were severed and came before the Council. Director Sahni noted that the update was provided to the Committee members today. Chief Femino addressed the Council and explained the Shannon Grant funds are used to reduce gun violence. The application was completed last fall, so some of the language in it might be different now. He gave a breakdown of the hours attributed to 'hot spot' policing and explained that any extra hours would be diverted to youth programs. Chief Femino noted that there have been 15 shootings in the Mystic Housing area. There are Community Policing programs being developed. Chief Femino acknowledged that some answers weren't provided, as requested, since the SPD crime analyst was unavailable. The SPD is planning several basketball games at the Mystic Development, funded by the Shannon Grant. Chief Femino spoke about a program for tutoring, public speaking, etc.. The bulk of hours would be put towards community awareness and youth programs. Councilor McLaughlin spoke on the item and indicated his support for it. He noted that there was no item submitted by any councilor, other than himself, referencing gangs. He shared some personal experiences of

interaction with police. He also pointed out that Teen Empowerment was brought to Somerville as a result of the Shannon Grant. He commented that people want 24-hour police presence in their neighborhoods. Rejecting this grant will do little but accepting the grant may make a big difference to youth in the city. He made a motion to approve the acceptance of #213854 and #213856. Councilor Clingan commented that the gang database should be done away with and Councilor Scott explained that the gang database is CopLink and he doesn't believe that Somerville should participate in using it. Councilor Strezo stated that many residents are terrified because of the shooting incidents. The motion was approved and the items were approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.B.2. Order
212987
(ID # [22-0211](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Kristen Strezo and Beatriz Gomez Mouakad and Judy Pineda Neufeld and Charlotte Kelly and Lance L. Davis and Ben Ewen-Campen

An order that the Director of Economic Development and the Director of Procurement and Contracting Services work with community partners to assess, report, and provide recommendations for improving the city's procurement rates in order to support local businesses.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.B.3. Mayor's Request
213493
(ID # [22-0717](#))

Mayor acceptance of a \$45,904.98 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for the purchase of security software and equipment to enhance physical security for city property and buildings.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.B.4. Mayor's Request
213626
(ID # [22-0850](#))

Mayor requesting approval to appropriate and transfer \$5,335,164 in unallocated COVID-19 monies from the COVID-19 Stabilization Fund to the Somerville High School Construction Fund to pay costs of the construction of the Somerville High School, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by a like amount.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

6.B.5. Officer's
Communication
213818
(ID # [22-28780](#))

Director of Infrastructure & Asset Management conveying the Water & Sewer Capital Investment Plan update for May 2022.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.B.6. Mayor's Request
213854
(ID # [22-28810](#))

Mayor requesting approval of a transfer of \$7,076 from the Police Overtime Account to the Grant Match Account for the Metro Mayors Coalition Shannon Grant match requirement.

RESULT: APPROVED

	<p>AYE: City Councilor At Large Strezo, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, and Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld</p> <p>NAY: City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., City Councilor At Large Kelly, and Ward Two City Councilor Scott</p> <p>ABSENT: Ward Five City Councilor Gomez Mouakad, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis</p>
6.B.7. Mayor's Request 213856 (ID # 22-28809)	<p>Mayor requesting acceptance of a \$22,692 grant, with required match, from the Metro Mayors Coalition Shannon Initiative to the Police Department for youth violence prevention.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS</p> <p>AYE: City Councilor At Large Strezo, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, and Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld</p> <p>NAY: City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., City Councilor At Large Kelly, and Ward Two City Councilor Scott</p> <p>ABSENT: Ward Five City Councilor Gomez Mouakad, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis</p>
6.B.8. Mayor's Request 213857 (ID # 22-28811)	<p>Mayor requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$75,000 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for Special Response Team expenditures and overtime.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p>
6.B.9. Order 213896 (ID # 22-28863)	<p>By Beatriz Gomez Mouakad</p> <p>An order that the Director of Finance report on the process to reallocate funds reimbursed from the Green Line Extension Project.</p> <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>
6.B.10 Mayor's Request 213940 (ID # 22-28905)	<p>Mayor requesting approval to re-purpose the Green Line Extension (GLX) Stabilization Fund to create an "Early Action" Affordable Housing Program and transfer the balance of the GLX Stabilization Fund to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> <p>AYE: City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., City Councilor At Large Kelly, City Councilor At Large Strezo, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, and Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld</p>

ABSENT: Ward Five City Councilor Gomez Mouakad, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

6.C. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- 6.C.1. Committee Report 214092 Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on June 28, 2022.
(ID # [22-0289](#))

Councilor Strezo reported that the Committee discussed displacement of residents, rental assistance, wireless internet in communal areas, on-site food pantries for SHA buildings and approved the 2022-2023 Housing and Urban Development One Year Action Plan, for Community Development Block Grant, Home Investment Partnership, and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.C.2. Resolution 213064 By Kristen Strezo and Judy Pineda Neufeld
(ID # [22-0288](#)) A resolution that the Executive Director of the Housing Authority discuss the possibility of providing wireless internet in communal areas.

- 6.C.3. Mayor's Request 213756 Mayor requesting approval of the 2022-2023 Housing and Urban
(ID # [22-0980](#)) Development One Year Action Plan, for Community Development Block Grant, Home Investment Partnership, and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.C.4. Order 214152 By Judy Pineda Neufeld
(ID # [22-29102](#)) That the Executive Director of the Somerville Housing Authority, the Director of the Office of Food Access and Healthy Communities, and a representative from the Somerville Community Fridges discuss how to address food insecurity of residents at Housing Authority buildings and how to provide greater resources.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

6.D. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- 6.D.1. Committee Report 214093 Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on June 28, 2022.
(ID # [22-0290](#))

Councilor Ewen-Campen presented the Committee Report and noted that there was an in-depth discussion regarding the Active Shooter Detection System. Councilor Ewen-Campen explained how the technology works and stated that it does not record audio or video. Additionally, this system has no human interaction in the loop. The School Department has advocated for this system and has used it in the old high school building. Councilor Ewen-Campen moved to sever item #213947. The item was severed and

came before the Council. Councilor Ewen-Campen moved to refer item #213947 to Legislative Matters. Councilor Scott would like to approve the item now, rather than having the city's labor counsel weigh in on the matter. The motion was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.D.2. Mayor's Request
213489
(ID # [22-0713](#))

Mayor requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Guardian Indoor Active Shooter Detection System.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.D.3. Ordinance
213947
(ID # [22-28926](#))

By Ben Ewen-Campen and Beatriz Gomez Mouakad and Charlotte Kelly and Jake Wilson and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott and Jesse Clingan and Judy Pineda Neufeld and Kristen Strezo and Lance L. Davis and Matthew McLaughlin and Willie Burnley, Jr.

Proposing an amendment to the Surveillance Oversight Ordinance (Chapter 10, Article III, Sec 10.63) to remove the exemption for body-worn cameras.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

6.D.4. Mayor's Request
214036
(ID # [22-28961](#))

Mayor requesting approval of the attached Dog Rules and Dog Park Rules.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.E. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

6.E.1. Committee Report
214094
(ID # [22-0291](#))

Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on July 11, 2022.

Councilor Kelly presented the Committee Report and spoke about the COVID listening sessions, port-a-potties, warming/cooling centers and an overdose prevention facility.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.E.2. Order
213811
(ID # [22-1035](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr.

An order that the ADA Coordinator discuss with this Council how the Administration is accommodating the needs of visually impaired residents through the use of braille in commissions and elsewhere.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.3. Order
213812
(ID # [22-1036](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Charlotte Kelly

An order that the ADA Coordinator discuss with this Council how the Administration is providing access and services for residents who are deaf or hard of hearing.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- 6.E.4. Order
213945
(ID # [22-28915](#))
By Judy Pineda Neufeld
An order that the Director of Health and Human Services share with this Council, a report summarizing the themes shared at the recent COVID-19 listening sessions with residents.
RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
- 6.E.5. Order
213990
(ID # [22-28982](#))
By Lance L. Davis and Willie Burnley, Jr. and Beatriz Gomez Mouakad and Ben Ewen-Campen and Charlotte Kelly and Jake Wilson and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott and Jesse Clingan and Judy Pineda Neufeld and Kristen Strezo and Matthew McLaughlin
An order that the Commissioner of Public Works replace the port-a-potties in and around Davis Square, including Seven Hills Park, regularly maintain them, and leave them in place regardless of complaints from neighbors.
RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
- 6.E.6. Order
213993
(ID # [22-28984](#))
By Lance L. Davis and Matthew McLaughlin and Beatriz Gomez Mouakad and Ben Ewen-Campen and Charlotte Kelly and Jake Wilson and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott and Jesse Clingan and Judy Pineda Neufeld and Kristen Strezo and Willie Burnley, Jr.
An order that the Director of Health and Human Services immediately secure space and open a warming/cooling center for people to seek shelter from the summer heat and winter cold.
RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
- 6.E.7. Order
213994
(ID # [22-28985](#))
By Lance L. Davis and Charlotte Kelly and Jake Wilson and Ben Ewen-Campen
An order that the Director of Health and Human Services move forward with an overdose prevention facility, using a mobile facility as an initial, immediate option until permanent brick and mortar locations can be opened.
RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
- 6.F. SCHOOL BUILDING FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
- 6.F.1. Committee Report
214095
(ID # [22-0292](#))
Report of the Special Committee on School Building Facilities and Maintenance, meeting on June 30, 2022.
Councilor Clingan reported on the inaugural meeting of this Committee. Among the topics discussed were playground designs and plans for the Brown School and West Somerville Neighborhood School, school building maintenance systems and staff, design issues related to ineffective shades and placement of projector equipment in the high school auditorium, building maintenance and capital improvements for the Winter Hill School and the status of the 1895 building.
RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.F.2. Order
213114
(ID # [22-0338](#))
- By Beatriz Gomez Mouakad and Jesse Clingan
An order that the Commissioner of Public Works identify, and provide the information requested within, staff who are designated to school building maintenance and management.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- 6.F.3. Order
213115
(ID # [22-0339](#))
- By Beatriz Gomez Mouakad and Jesse Clingan
An order that the Commissioner of Public Works identify vendors contracted for school building maintenance and the scope of their contracts.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request
(ID # [22-0236](#))
- Requesting approval of Police Officer assignments at Polling Places on Election Day as required by the VOTES Act.

Commissioner Salerno explained that the VOTES Act requires local government bodies to vote on having police officers at polling places. He is unaware of a specific reason for this ruling. Councilor Burnley explained that the Council may now decide if this is the best use of police resources. He would like this item referred to committee. He took an unofficial poll of residents and said that most respondents were not in favor of having police at polling places. Councilor Kelly said there is some ambiguity in the law regarding assigning officers to polling places and she thinks this should be discussed in the Legislative Matters Committee. Commissioner Salerno said that police officers serve a useful purpose throughout an election day. They deliver the ballots to and from City Hall, assist in polling location setup, and provide security. Councilor Wilson asked how many incidents required intervention of a police officer over the past several years. Commissioner said that actions of police officers are documented in each precinct log throughout the day. Commissioner Salerno said that during the course of an election, there could be 2 to 6 incidents per precinct. Councilor Ewen-Campen expressed his confusion & n of what is being requested. Director Sahni explained that the requirement to have police officers at polling places has always been state law. Councilor Kelly commented that the Council should not abdicate the authority just given to it in this matter. Councilor Scott suggested that the Council approve a similar requirement for the September 6th election. Councilor Burnley stated that he wants to understand the legal ramification of approving this item. Councilor Strezo moved to approve the item. Councilor Scott requested that Councilor Strezo recall her motion, which she refused to do. President McLaughlin supports approving this item. Councilor Scott invoked Charter Section 15 and the item was laid on the table.

RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE

- 7.2. Mayor's Request
214097
(ID # [22-0237](#))
- Requesting the appropriation of \$100,000 from the Community Preservation Act Undesignated Fund to the Somerville Museum for unanticipated cost increases for the Elevator and Collection Storage projects.

Roberta Cameron, Community Preservation Act Manager, spoke on this item and explained the reason for the request. The project entails waterproofing the entire 1st floor and makes the first floor HP accessible and reconfigures space. The funds will be used for materials and construction costs.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.3. Mayor's Request 214098
(ID # [22-0239](#))
- Requesting authorization to seek funding and enter into related agreements with the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant, appropriate funding, and dedicate Henry Hansen Park to open space and recreational use in perpetuity.

Arn Franzen explained that this is a grant made available through the state and the city has received a considerable amount of money over the years. An authorization by the Council is required in order for the city to move forward in securing the grant. The grant deadline is today.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.4. Mayor's Request 214099
(ID # [22-0240](#))
- Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$750,000 grant with no new match required, from MA Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs to the Public Space and Urban Forestry Division for costs related to Conway Park remediation and construction.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.5. Mayor's Request 214100
(ID # [22-0241](#))
- Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$298,280 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Mental Health to the Police Department for Crisis Intervention Team training.

Councilor Kelly inquired who the grant would be spent on. Director Contente said that 54 other police departments would be involved in this regional training. Approximately 3-4 Somerville officers would attend the training classes. There are 3 grant funded positions through this grant.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.6. Mayor's Request 214101
(ID # [22-0243](#))
- Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$241,666 grant with no new match required, from MA Department of Public Health to Health and Human Services for overdose and substance misuse prevention.

Councilor Kelly asked about sub-contractor list and Director Carroll explained the grant is regional and based on population size. The city is the host agent and would contract out work to other communities in a coordinated fashion.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.7. Mayor's Request 214102
(ID # [22-0244](#))
- Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$37,315 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Mental Health to the Police Department for the Jail Diversion Program.

Director Contente gave a breakdown of how the funds would be used. The Police Department also utilized the DA's diversion program, at no cost to the city.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.8. Mayor's Request 214103
(ID # [22-0099](#)) Mayor requesting approval to accept and expend a \$23,482.12 grant with no new match required, from UASI to the Fire Department for a new boat motor.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.9. Mayor's Request 214104
(ID # [22-0113](#)) Mayor requesting approval to accept and expend a \$9,205.03 grant with no new match required, from UASI to the Fire Department for reimbursement of Rescue Recruit Training costs.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.10. Mayor's Request 214105
(ID # [22-0249](#)) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$4,000 grant with no new match required, from MA Office of the Attorney General to Health and Human Services for the Healthy Summer Jobs Program.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 7.11. Mayor's Request 214106
(ID # [22-0250](#)) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$32.85 using available funds in the Public Library's Ordinary Maintenance Water Cooler Rental line.

RESULT: APPROVED**8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS****9. NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.1. License 214107
(ID # [22-0082](#)) New Drainlayer's License, James W. Flett Co.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 9.2. License 214108
(ID # [22-1332](#)) New Drainlayer's License, Keash Excavating Inc.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 9.3. License 214109
(ID # [22-0081](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Baystate Engineering Corp.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

RESULT: APPROVED

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- 9.4. License
214110
(ID # [22-0083](#))
- Renewing Drainlayer's License, Galway Excavation LLC.
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.5. License
214111
(ID # [22-1335](#))
- Renewing Drainlayer's License, Peter Amorello Construction & Demolition.
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.6. License
214112
(ID # [22-1336](#))
- Renewing Garage License, Triumvirate Environmental, 191 Inner Belt Rd.
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.7. Public Event
214113
(ID # [22-0110](#))
- Avir Waxman applying for a Public Event License for Summit Ave Block Party on July 23 from 10am to 10pm (raindate July 30).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.8. Public Event
214114
(ID # [22-0095](#))
- Janine Fay applying for a Public Event License for Dancing in the Street on July 28 from 4:30pm to 10pm (raindate July 29).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.9. Public Event
214115
(ID # [22-1339](#))
- Michele Mobilia applying for a Public Event License for Chester Ave Block Party on July 30 from 9am to 10pm (raindate August 6).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.10. Public Event
214116
(ID # [22-0114](#))
- Somerville Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for Yart Sale on August 13 from 11:30am to 6:30pm (raindate August 14).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.11. Public Event
214117
(ID # [22-0108](#))
- Christin Rills applying for a Public Event License for Summer Block Party on August 13 from 4pm to 10:30pm.
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- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.12. Public Event
214118
(ID # [22-0104](#))
Somerville Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for Evolution of Hip Hop on August 20 from 2pm to 9:30pm (raindate August 21).
Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.13. Public Event
214119
(ID # [22-0100](#))
Tadhg Pearson applying for a Public Event License for Munroe St Block Party on August 21 from 1:30pm to 7pm.
Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.14. Public Event
214120
(ID # [22-0097](#))
Kelsey Kent applying for a Public Event License for Lexington Ave Block Party on August 28 from 4pm to 9pm (raindate September 4).
Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.15. Public Event
214121
(ID # [22-0111](#))
Tufts University applying for a Public Event License for Discover Davis Square on September 4 from 11am to 6pm.
Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.16. Public Event
214122
(ID # [22-0103](#))
Somerville Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for Rock and Roll Yard Sale on September 4 from 8am to 6pm (raindate September 11).
Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.17. Public Event
214123
(ID # [22-0107](#))
Somerville Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for Somer Fest on September 9 from 2pm to 11pm (raindate September 16).
Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.18. Public Event
214124
(ID # [22-0394](#))
Ryan Harrington Foundation applying for a Public Event License for Ryan Harrington Cornhole Tournament on September 10 from 8am to 6pm.
Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
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- 9.19. Public Event
214125
(ID # [22-0096](#))
- Kevin Fitzpatrick applying for a Public Event License for Greene St Block Party on September 10 from 12pm to 9pm (raindate September 17).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.20. Public Event
214126
(ID # [22-0098](#))
- Stephanie Galaitsi applying for a Public Event License for Morrison Ave Block Party on September 10 from 3pm to 8pm (raindate September 17).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.21. Public Event
214127
(ID # [22-0105](#))
- Somerville Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for SomerStreets: Strike up the Bands on September 11 from 12pm to 8pm.
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.22. Public Event
214128
(ID # [22-0392](#))
- Pearl Emmons applying for a Public Event License for Glenwood Rd Block Party on September 17 from 12pm to 9:30pm (raindate September 18).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.23. Public Event
214129
(ID # [22-1353](#))
- Mark Chenevert applying for a Public Event License for Belmont St South Block Party on September 18 from 1:30pm to 6:30pm (raindate September 25).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.24. Public Event
214130
(ID # [22-0393](#))
- Somerville Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for Air Residency Program Dance on September 23 from 3pm to 8pm (raindate September 30).
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
- 9.25. License
214131
(ID # [22-1355](#))
- New Sign/Awning License, Kong Dog, 236 Elm Street, 1 wall sign.
- Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED
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- 9.26. Public Communication 214132
(ID # [22-0320](#))
- Anthony Pasquale requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 34 Allen Street from Neighborhood Residential (NR) to Small Business (SB) Overlay.

Councilor Scott expressed his full support for this item.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 10.1. Grant of Location 214133
(ID # [22-0391](#))
- Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install a total of 2,281 feet of conduit and 3 new manholes along Washington, Joy, and Chestnut Streets.

Jacqui Duffy, representing Eversource, spoke in favor of the item and explained the work involved. There being no opposition and no other speakers, the public hearing was closed. Councilor Scott asked to condition the permit so that Fitchburg St. is not completely shut down. The abutter notices were mailed out last week by the city.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 10.2. Order 214134
(ID # [22-0293](#))
- By Matthew McLaughlin
That the Commissioner of Public Works address the sink hole in front of 71 Florence Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 10.3. Order 214135
(ID # [22-0389](#))
- By Matthew McLaughlin
That the Community Outreach, Help and Recovery (COHR) team work in conjunction with the Homeless Coalition to address homelessness in East Somerville open spaces.

President McLaughlin commented that the issue of individuals living in abandoned buildings continues.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

- 10.4. Order 214136
(ID # [22-0228](#))
- By Matthew McLaughlin
An order that the Director of Veterans' Services update this Council on the status of the veterans' memorials previously removed due to construction of the new high school.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

- 10.5. Order 214137
(ID # [22-1361](#))
- By Matthew McLaughlin
That the city recognize the bicentennial of Frederick Law Olmsted, in honor of his many contributions to open space in the Boston area and nationwide.

President McLaughlin noted some of the spaces designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

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| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 10.6. Mayor's Request
214138
(ID # 22-0254) | Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$73,101.60 grant that requires a match which will be provided by Groundworks, from Metro North Workforce Board to Health and Human Services for youth employment. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 10.7. Officer's
Communication
214139
(ID # 22-0255) | Conveying the appointment of Austin Cole to the Wage Theft Advisory Committee. |
| | RESULT: PLACED ON FILE |
| 10.8. Public Event
214140
(ID # 22-0106) | Slaughter House applying for a Public Event License for Slaughter House Dance on July 17 from 12:30pm to 4:30pm (raindate August 7). |
| | Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 10.9. Public Event
214141
(ID # 22-0101) | Ocean River Institute applying for a Public Event License for Ocean River Tabling on August 9 from 10am to 1pm (raindate August 10). |
| | Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 10.10. Public Event
214142
(ID # 22-1366) | Alta Revolution applying for a Public Event License for Alta Revolution Block Party on August 14 from 10am to 5pm. |
| | Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 10.11. Public Event
214143
(ID # 22-0102) | FRIT applying for a Public Event License for Riverfest on September 10 from 10am to 10pm (raindate September 11). |
| | Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 10.12. Public Event
214144
(ID # 22-0112) | Somerville Arts Council and Union Square Main Streets applying for a Public Event License for What the Fluff on September 17 from 12pm to 9pm (raindate September 18). |
| | Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 10.13. License
214145
(ID # 22-1369) | New Sign/Awning License, 872 Broadway LLC, 872 Broadway, for 4 balconies over public way. |
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Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 10.14. Public
Communication
214146
(ID # [22-0295](#))

Bill Valletta submitting comments re: Item #213430, an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances to repeal references to a Certificate of Zoning Compliance.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

11. LATE ITEMS

- 11.1. Resolution
214147
(ID # [22-0426](#))

By Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott
That the City Council authorize a Police Officer to be assigned at Polling Places on September 6, 2022 and authorizes the Chief of Police to assign Police Officers to the listed Polling Places on September 6, 2022.

Councilor Scott made a motion, which was approved on a voice vote, That the City Council authorize a Police Officer to be assigned at Polling Places on September 6, 2022 and authorizes the Chief of Police to assign Police Officers to the listed Polling Places on September 6, 2022.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 11.2. Order
214148
(ID # [22-0428](#))

By Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott
That this Council meet in Executive Session pursuant to MGL c30A s21(a) (1), to review protected personnel information or to discuss matters related to individual candidates, regarding Item #214034, confirmation of the promotion of Timothy Van Nostrand to the position of Police Sergeant.

RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE

- 11.3. Order
214149
(ID # [22-0390](#))

By Jake Wilson and Ben Ewen-Campen and Charlotte Kelly and Willie Burnley, Jr.
That the Director of Health and Human Services and the Director of Community Outreach, Help and Recovery appear before the Public Health and Public Safety Committee to discuss an alternative emergency response program.

Councilor Wilson would like to have an in-depth discussion on this item in PHPS.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

- 11.4. Order
214150
(ID # [22-0229](#))

By Willie Burnley, Jr.
An order that the Commissioner of Public Works expedite the fixing of the elevator in the Armory.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

- 11.5. Order By Willie Burnley, Jr. and Kristen Strezo
214151 That the Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry update this Council
(ID # [22-0427](#)) regarding tracking publishing the number of trees that are cut down or die,
especially related to gas leaks.

RESULT: APPROVED

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 10:26 PM.