



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, January 11, 2024

7:00 PM

City Council Chamber and Remote
Participation

Published January 9, 2024 12:40 PM, Revised January 11, 2024 1:00 PM.

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the City Council may be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audiovideo 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.

Register at the following website to listen to this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_46-PW6xeTUGO347c2efi-g

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e. CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact Adrienne Pomeroy in advance, at 617-625-6600 x2059 or ada@somervillema.gov.

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

- 1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # [24-0049](#))
- 1.2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # [24-0050](#))
- 1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
(ID # [24-0051](#)) November 21, 2023.

2. CITATIONS

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 3.1. Grant of Location Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install a
(ID # [24-0018](#)) new manhole and 253 feet of conduit in Columbia Street,
to a point of pickup at 495 Columbia Street.

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Order (ID # [24-0039](#)) By Councilor Strezo
That the Commissioner of Public Works re-install the bench, previously donated and installed in honor of longstanding Brown School principal Marilyn Haggerty, on the Brown School grounds.
- 4.2. Order (ID # [24-0041](#)) By Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Parking ensure that the parking meters in front of the Tufts Administration Building (TAB) are reserved for TAB building visitors with disability placards, Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM, to assist with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility.
- 4.3. Resolution (ID # [24-0040](#)) By Councilor Strezo
That the Administration and the Director of Water and Sewer update this Council, in writing, on the plan to support residents who cannot afford the recent water bill increases.
- 4.4. Order (ID # [24-0042](#)) By Councilor Pineda Neufeld and Councilor Wilson
That the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment provide this Council with any updated plans and timelines for a municipal composting program.
- 4.5. Order (ID # [24-0043](#)) By Councilor Pineda Neufeld
That the Director of Economic Development update this Council on the "Mitigating Commercial Displacement in Somerville" report, released in December 2023, and any action steps taken as a result of the report.
- 4.6. Resolution (ID # [24-0044](#)) By Councilor Pineda Neufeld
That the Administration honor the Commonwealth's Fourth Annual Crossing Guard Appreciation between March 1-20, 2024 by planning appreciation events and opportunities to thank our crossing guards.
- 4.7. Order (ID # [24-0046](#)) By Councilor Mbah
That the Director of the Office of Housing Stability report on the progress of the organization and start-up of the Municipal Housing Voucher Program.
- 4.8. Order (ID # [24-0047](#)) By Councilor Mbah
That the Director of Housing and the Director of the Office of Housing Stability report on the feasibility of fair housing enforcement.

- 4.9. Order (ID # [24-0048](#)) By Councilor Mbah
That the Director of Housing and the Director of the Office of Housing Stability provide a ten-year progress report on the implementation of the city's efforts to prevent and mitigate displacement.
- 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- 6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**
- 7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**
- 7.1. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0010](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$122,627 grant with no new match required, from Mass General Hospital/Cambridge Health Alliance to the Health and Human Services Department for recruitment and training of Community Health Workers.
- 7.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0035](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$91,211.79 grant with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to the Fire Department for staffing costs.
- 7.3. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0014](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$76,867 grant with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Office of Elder Affairs to the Council on Aging for social, educational and physical wellness programming.
- 7.4. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0036](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$53,200 grant with no new match required, from the Mass Cultural Council to the Arts Council for the Local Cultural Council grant program.
- 7.5. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0015](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$3,600 grant with no new match required, from Massachusetts Councils on Aging to the Council on Aging for the Somerville Memory Cafe.
- 7.6. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0013](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$3,000 grant with no new match required, from Somerville Cambridge Elder Services to the Council on Aging for senior transportation.
- 7.7. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0011](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$28.75 using available funds in the Human Resources Department Wellness Account for an employee Weight Watchers wellness benefit.

- 7.8. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0017](#)) Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Mark Matthews to the position of Fire District Chief.
- 7.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0016](#)) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Anandavalli Thiagarajan to the Public Library Board of Trustees.

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. License (ID # [24-0019](#)) New Automatic Amusement Device License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, for 138 devices.
- 9.2. License (ID # [24-0020](#)) New Billiards and Bowling License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, for 5 billiard tables and 8 bowling lanes.
- 9.3. License (ID # [24-0021](#)) Renewing Dog Kennel License, Riverdog Daycare, 321 Somerville Avenue.
- 9.4. License (ID # [24-0022](#)) New Extended Operating Hours License, Dunkin, 504 Broadway, opening 24/7 for in store and take-out services.
- 9.5. License (ID # [24-0023](#)) New Extended Operating Hours License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, opening Monday-Sunday until 2am for in-store service only.
- 9.6. License (ID # [24-0024](#)) New Garage License, Broadway Gulf Inc, 212 Broadway, 3 vehicles inside, 7 vehicles outside, for mechanical repairs and storing vehicles, Mon-Fri: 6am-10pm, Sat: 7am-3pm, Sun: closed.
- 9.7. License (ID # [24-0025](#)) Renewing Lodging House License, Walnut Hill Properties, 100 Packard Ave.
- 9.8. License (ID # [24-0026](#)) Renewing Lodging House License, Walnut Hill Properties, 25 Whitfield Rd.
- 9.9. License (ID # [24-0027](#)) New Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Broadway Gulf Inc, 212 Broadway, 3 vehicles inside, 10 vehicles outside, Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm, Sat: 8am-2pm, Sun: closed.
- 9.10. License (ID # [24-0028](#)) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Auto Plus LLC, 229 Lowell St.
- 9.11. License (ID # [24-0029](#)) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Gene Automotive, 56 Joy St.

- 9.12. License (ID # [24-0030](#)) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, John's Auto Sales, 181 Somerville Ave.
- 9.13. License (ID # [24-0031](#)) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Joy St Motors, 24 Joy St.
- 9.14. License (ID # [24-0032](#)) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Teele Square Auto, 1284 Broadway.
- 9.15. License (ID # [24-0034](#)) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Pat's Enterprises, Inc, 308 McGrath Hwy.
- 9.16. License (ID # [24-0033](#)) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Pat's Enterprises, Inc, 182 Washington St.

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 10.1. Order (ID # [24-0062](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide monthly updates to this Council's Committee on Public Health and Public Safety regarding ongoing efforts to address homelessness.
- 10.2. Order (ID # [24-0063](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Mobility update the Ward 1 City Councilor on the status of the Kensington Connector.
- 10.3. Order (ID # [24-0064](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Public Works address the trash and littering along East Broadway.
- 10.4. Order (ID # [24-0065](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Public Works address the overflow of trash at Symphony Park.
- 10.5. Resolution (ID # [24-0061](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Administration update this City Council on the status of Charter reform.
- 10.6. Resolution (ID # [24-0066](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Administration reconstitute neighborhood cleanups, particularly on Earth Day.
- 10.7. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0037](#)) Requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances to amend Article 9: Use Provisions, and the Permitted Uses tables of all zoning districts, to establish a Recreational Camp for Children use within the Recreational Services use category.

- 10.8. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0045](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$260,836.34 from the GLX Developer Contribution Fund Account for procuring an owners project representative for the 100 Chestnut Pedestrian Bridge.
- 10.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0012](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only extension to the contract with WSP, Inc. for design work on the Somerville Avenue Utilities and Streetscape Improvements project.
- 10.10. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0058](#)) Requesting that City Councilors submit budget funding priorities by March 28, 2024.
- 10.11. License (ID # [24-0060](#)) New Extended Operating Hours License, Everfitness, 14 McGrath Highway, opening Monday-Friday 24/5 for in-store service only.
- 10.12. Public Communication (ID # [24-0059](#)) Gregg Donovan requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 321 Washington Street from Fabrication (FAB) to Commercial Industry (CI).

11. ADJOURNMENT