

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the City Council

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

November 24, 2020, 7:00 PM
Meeting by Remote Participation

NOTICE

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the City Council 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.

Register at the following website to view this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3813018775151018256>.

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # 23837)

2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # 23838)

3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
(ID # 23839) October 22, 2020.

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. Grant of Submitted by RCN Telecom Services to install 60 feet of
Location conduit in Holland Street from a Level 3 manhole to
(ID # 23804) utility pole 171/13 at 162 Holland Street.

5. Grant of Submitted by Cambridge Network Solutions to install 20
Location feet of conduit in Broadway from RCN manhole 3 to
(ID # 23805) CATV manhole 0 at 1060 Broadway.

6. Officer's Chief Assessor requesting to appear at this Council's
Communication November 24 meeting for the Classification Public
(ID # 23823) Hearing and the determination and adoption of tax levy
percentages for FY21.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 7. Resolution (ID # 23812) By City Councilor Strezo, Niedergang
That the Administration update this Council on the hiring process for the soon-to-be-vacated position of Chief of Police.

- 8. Resolution (ID # 23813) By City Councilor Strezo
That representatives of the Community Land Trust discuss with this Council's Housing and Community Development Committee how the Council can help implement the Trust's goals.

- 9. Order (ID # 23815) By City Councilor Mbah
That the Commissioner of Public Works install lights at all playgrounds.

- 10. Order (ID # 23817) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Strezo
That the Director of SPCD commission independent Community Impact Studies for each upcoming Neighborhood Plan and large-scale redevelopment effort, to quantify possible displacement, rent increase, and other negative outcomes, and to propose mitigation strategies.

- 11. Order (ID # 23818) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Clingan, McLaughlin
That the Director of SPCD initiate a community process for the Homans Building site as soon as possible.

- 12. Order (ID # 23819) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Scott, Mbah, Strezo
That the Director of SPCD replace the NO BICYCLES ON SIDEWALK decals in the city's business districts and work with the Pedestrian and Transit Advocacy Committee to reduce conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians on sidewalks.

- 13. Communication (ID # 23814) By City Councilor Rossetti
Reporting of the High School Building Committee meeting of November 16, 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 14. Grant of Location 210814 Submitted by Eversource to install 138 feet of conduit in Professors Row, from utility pole 289/12 to a point of pickup at 91 Professors Row.

- 15. Grant of Location 210815 Submitted by Eversource to install 76 feet of conduit in Joy Street, from manhole 22832 to a point of pickup at the rear of 135 Linwood Street.

- 16. Grant of Location 210816 Submitted by Eversource to install 31 feet of conduit in Woodbine Street, from utility pole 632/2 to a point of pickup at 15 Woodbine Street.
- 17. Grant of Location 210817 Submitted by Eversource to install 337 feet of conduit in Grand Union Boulevard, from manhole 29310 to manhole 29175.
- 18. Grant of Location 210818 Submitted by Eversource to install 5 feet of conduit in Curtis Street, from utility pole 289/16 to a point of pickup at 131 Curtis Street.
- 19. Grant of Location 210812 Submitted by TC Systems Inc to install 65 feet of conduit in Florence Street, from utility pole 127/8 to a proposed handhole at the intersection of Pearl and Florence Streets.
- 20. Grant of Location 210813 Submitted by TC Systems Inc to install 132 feet of conduit from a Comcast manhole at 77 Middlesex Ave to a proposed manhole at the intersection of Middlesex Ave and Foley St, then branching, with 7 feet going to Verizon Manhole #447 and 45 feet going to Pole 213/6, both at the same intersection.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

21. CAUCUS OF THE 2021 CITY COUNCIL

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23799) Report of the Caucus of the 2021 City Council, meeting on November 24, 2020.

22. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23832) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on November 23, 2020.
- B. Mayor's Request 210842 Requesting the appropriation of \$7,129,550 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the COVID-19 Stabilization Fund to provide resources to fight the pandemic.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- C. Mayor's Request 210845 Requesting the appropriation of \$1,672,769 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Parking Meter Receipts Account in order to reduce the FY21 Tax Rate.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

- D. Mayor's Request 210846 Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$600,000 to the School Lunch Revolving Fund to fund a projected budget deficit in FY21.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- E. Mayor's Request 210847 Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$259,492 to the Veterans Ice Rink Enterprise Fund.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- F. Mayor's Request 210848 Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$209,280 to the Fire Department Repair & Maintenance Vehicles Account to repair Ladder Two's aerial ladder.
RECOMMENDED: Withdrawn
- G. Mayor's Request 210849 Requesting the appropriation of \$51,712 from the Dilboy Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to balance the FY21 Dilboy Enterprise Fund Budget.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- H. Mayor's Request 210850 Requesting the supplemental appropriation of \$11,907 to the Public Library's Digital Subscription Account to meet the FY21 appropriation requirement outlined by the MA Board of Library Commissioners.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- I. Mayor's Request 210851 Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$10,704 to the City Clerk Software Repair and Maintenance Account to develop new domestic partnership software and extend the city's MinuteTraq contract.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- J. Mayor's Request 210852 Requesting the rescission of the prior appropriation of \$5,253,206 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to reduce the FY21 Tax Levy, as approved on July 14 in #210317.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- K. Mayor's Request 210853 Requesting the reduction of the FY21 Kennedy School Pool Enterprise Budget by \$65,000 to balance the budget.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- L. Mayor's Request 210854 Requesting the reduction of \$8,848 from the appropriated FY21 Dilboy Enterprise Fund Budget to balance the budget.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- M. Mayor's Request 210855 Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$2,872.50 using available funds in the Communications Professional and Technical Services Account.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- N. Mayor's Request 210856 Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$200 using available funds in the Fire Department Dues and Memberships Account for CHAMP membership.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

- O. Mayor's Request 210857 Requesting acceptance of a \$1,400,000 payment from the MBTA/MA DoT to the SPCD Mobility Division for required GLX traffic and pedestrian environmental commitments.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- P. Mayor's Request 210858 Requesting acceptance of \$878,051 in CDBG CARES Act funds and \$632,359 in ESG CARES grant funds with no new match required, from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to prepare for, prevent, and respond to the impacts of Covid-19.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- Q. Mayor's Request 210860 Requesting acceptance of a \$100,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Health to the Health and Human Services Department for its Covid-19 response.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- R. Mayor's Request 210862 Requesting acceptance of a gift of \$88,140 with no new match required, from Ginkgo Bioworks to supply and process COVID 19 PCR tests for schools and other essential city personnel.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- S. Mayor's Request 210863 Requesting acceptance of a \$25,600 grant with no new match required, from the MA Emergency Management Agency to the Fire Department for the purchase of safety equipment.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- T. Mayor's Request 210864 Requesting acceptance of a \$13,305 grant with no new match required, from the MA Board of Library Commissioners to the Public Library to create a 2-year program to train immigrants via an ESOL civics awareness class, provide USCIS citizenship workshops, create a Citizenship Corner at each branch, and create a mechanism to sustain the program past the 2-year award.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- U. Mayor's Request 210903 Requesting a transfer of \$15,000 from the Executive Administration Personal Services Account to the Grants Development Personal Services Account to cover an increase in hours for the part-time grant writer.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

23. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23828) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on November 16, 2020.
- B. Order 210688 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen That the Director of Communications or the appropriate department remove the electronic Soofa signs from sidewalks in Ward 3.

RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

24. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23830) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on November 18, 2020.

25. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23831) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on November 19, 2020.
- B. Ordinance 210472 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen Proposing zoning map changes to 8 properties on McGrath Hwy between 368 and 414 McGrath Hwy, as listed within.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

26. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23829) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on November 17, 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

27. Mayor's Request (ID # 23816) Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for new changes, corrections and clarifications.
28. Mayor's Request (ID # 23827) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,591,206 in a bond for Dilboy Stadium improvements.
29. Mayor's Request (ID # 23833) Requesting the appropriation of \$500,000 from the Covid 19 Stabilization Fund to provide Covid relief grants to the arts and cultural community.
30. Mayor's Request (ID # 23810) Requesting the appropriation of \$249,713 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Insurance Settlements Account to reduce the FY21 tax rate.
31. Mayor's Request (ID # 23811) Requesting an appropriation of \$209,280 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to repair Ladder Two's aerial ladder.

32. Mayor's Request (ID # 23767) Requesting acceptance of a \$400,000 PARC grant that requires a match, from MA Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to the Parks and Urban Forestry Division for Prospect Hill.
33. Mayor's Request (ID # 23809) Requesting acceptance of a \$75,000 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for expenditures and backfill/overtime for the Special Response Team.
34. Mayor's Request (ID # 23770) Requesting the re-appointment of Alan Bishop as Constable.
35. Mayor's Request (ID # 23771) Requesting the re-appointment of Catello Battinelli II as Constable.
36. Mayor's Request (ID # 23772) Requesting the re-appointment of Mary Battinelli as Constable.
37. Withdrawn (ID # 23773) Withdrawn.
38. Mayor's Request (ID # 23822) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Ami Feldman to the position of Library Trustee.
39. Mayor's Request (ID # 23824) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Georgania Toussaint to the position of Library Trustee.
40. Mayor's Request (ID # 23807) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Christopher Spicer Hankle to the position of Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

41. Officer's Communication (ID # 23834) Submitting for approval the appointment of Ayerim Decena to the position of Legislative and Policy Analyst.
42. Officer's Communication (ID # 23835) Submitting for approval the appointment of R. Mason to the position of Public Outreach Coordinator.

NEW BUSINESS

43. License/Permit (ID # 23800) Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Reliable Market, 45 Union Sq.

- 44. License/Permit (ID # 23801) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Real Auto Shop, 463 McGrath Hwy.
- 45. License/Permit (ID # 23802) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Pearl St Auto Sales, 182 Pearl St.
- 46. License/Permit (ID # 23803) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Automotive Transport Service, 40 Joy St.
- 47. License/Permit (ID # 23806) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Broadway Sunoco, 258 Broadway.
- 48. License/Permit (ID # 23808) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Executive Auto Leasing and Sales, 30 Medford St.
- 49. License/Permit (ID # 23820) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Motorcycles and More, 109 Bailey Rd.
- 50. Public Communication (ID # 23836) Digital Fourth submitting comments re: the 4 Surveillance Technology Impact Reports submitted on October 22 and the 7 STIRs submitted on November 12.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 51. Communication (ID # 23840) By City Councilor Strezo Reporting on a meeting of the Children’s Cabinet.
- 52. Order (ID # 23841) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Director of SPCD report to this Council in writing by December 4, and discuss with the Traffic and Parking Committee at its next meeting on December 7, what the plan is for replacing flex posts when they are knocked over or displaced.
- 53. Order (ID # 23842) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Director of SPCD report to this Council why there are still so few speed bumps in the city, especially since the ones deployed on Powder House Boulevard seem to be making a dangerous area safer for pedestrians.
- 54. Order (ID # 23843) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Director of SPCD explain to this Council in writing the Administration's opposition to deploying speed bumps, with less than a half-dozen installed citywide.

55. Order (ID # 23844) By City Councilor Niedergang, Scott
That the Director of SPCD brief the Traffic and Parking Committee on the work that will be done on our streets and Community Path pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement with the MBTA and MaDOT, which will provide the city with a \$1,400,000 payment.
56. Order (ID # 23851) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management or the Director of Engineering inform the Ward 5 City Councilor about any plans to mitigate flooding on Vernon Street near Lowell Street and on Alpine Street near Lowell Street.
57. Public Communication (ID # 23846) The Greater Boston Labor Council nominating Darlene Lombos to the Wage Theft Advisory Committee.
58. Public Communication (ID # 23848) The Welcome Project nominating Francisca Sepulveda to the Wage Theft Advisory Committee.
59. Public Communication (ID # 23849) Our Revolution Somerville nominating Colleen Fitzpatrick to the Wage Theft Advisory Committee.
60. Public Communication (ID # 23845) Ulysses Lateiner submitting comments re: Digital Fourth's comments on the Surveillance Technology Impact Reports.
61. Public Communication (ID # 23850) Jeff Rosenberg submitting comments re: redistributing Police Department funding.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT