



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Committee Meeting

Tuesday - October 6, 2020, 6:00 PM
Virtual

AGENDA

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 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/5001391832236255759>

1. Approval of the September 8, 2020 Minutes

Covid Finance Updates

- 2. 210035: Discuss** (Rossetti) – That the Director of Finance update this Council on all money received to date related to the COVID-19 situation.
- 3. 210036: Discuss** (Rossetti) – That the Director of Finance update this Council on all expenditures, encumbrances and anticipated expenses to date related to the COVID-19 situation.
- 4. 210117: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Finance provide a written rolling cash flow analysis every 2 weeks during this COVID-19 emergency and include forecasts to ensure sufficient operating liquidity by estimating the available cash deposits, expected inflows, and required disbursements.

5. **210592: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Finance share financial updates for YTD revenues and expenditures for all Covid-related line items.

Information Requests

6. **210302: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ballantyne) – That the Chief of Police report to this Council, no later than June 18, 2020 a description of any military equipment purchased or received as a federal grant, currently in the possession of the Police Department.
7. **210438: Discuss** (Rossetti) – That the Director of Finance report to this Council, all actual state aid appropriations versus budgeted (anticipated) state aid.
8. **210455: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Chief of Police provide to this Council an itemized statement of all materials, tools, and property owned or leased by the City for use of the Police Department.
9. **210456: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Chief of Police provide to this Council an itemized statement of any equipment purchased on behalf of employees of the Police Department which became the individual employee's property.
10. **210580: Discuss** Conveying the executed Memorandum of Agreement with DCR for the Dilboy Complex.
11. **210591: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis) – That the Director of Finance and the City Assessor consider a property tax abatement for landlords who lease to artists and arts and cultural organizations, tying the property tax reductions to rental relief for those tenants.
12. **210625: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That all Department Heads share their FY21 missions and goals and FY20 achievements at this Council's next meeting on October 8, 2020.
13. **210628: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Finance and the Director of SPCD discuss potential appropriations for requests from Somerville Cares (see attachment), restaurants and bars, arts and cultural organizations, and other groups.
14. **210626: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Finance and the Budget Director discuss ways to improve the user experience for OpenGov.

Policy Items

15. **209490: Recommend** Requesting approval of an annual Vacant Property Registration Fee of \$500.
16. **209562: Discuss** (McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Rossetti,

Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of Finance, or the appropriate department, consider raising the limit on assets seniors may claim to qualify for senior tax exemptions.

17. **209567: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the City Treasurer, the Chief Assessor and the Director of Finance discuss with this Council the possibility of switching to bi-annual tax bills, and including a simple "explainer" with each bill.
18. **210004: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Scott, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Administration update this Council on opportunities to provide universal broadband internet access in Somerville.
19. **210221: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Finance discuss providing small businesses the option to pay the Licensing Commission's annual license renewal fees in installments instead of all at once.
20. **210483: Discuss** (Rossetti) – That the Administration consider relief for local small businesses as it relates to their annual renewal of licenses and associated fees.
21. **210229: Discuss** (McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Scott, Mbah, White Jr., Rossetti, Strezo, Niedergang) – That the Chief of Police prohibit the purchase and use of military technology and eliminate any military stockpiles the department currently has.

Appropriation Requests

22. **210564: Recommend** Requesting the appropriation of \$240,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the FY21 Tree planting program.
23. **210565: Recommend** Requesting a transfer of \$13,228 from the Fire Department Ordinary Maintenance Account to the Fire Alarm Ordinary Maintenance Account to fund a technical service agreement for a 911 line into Fire Alarm.
24. **210566: Recommend** Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$3,402.65 using available funds in the DPW Lights and Lines budget.
25. **210567: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of 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.
26. **210568: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of a \$99,605 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Energy Resources Green Communities program to the Office of Sustainability & Environment for energy efficiency projects.

27. **210569: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of a \$25,602 grant that requires a match, from the Metro Mayors Shannon Initiative to the Police Department for youth violence prevention.
28. **210570: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of a \$2,250 grant with no new match required, from the MA Cultural Council to the Arts Council for operational and programming support.
29. **210598: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of a \$111,500 grant with no new match required, from MADot to the SPCD Mobility Division for Mystic Avenue Shared Streets improvements.
30. **210599: Recommend** Requesting approval of a time-only extension for the FY17 Morse Kelley Playground CPA Grant for an additional 3 years.
31. **210600: Recommend** Requesting approval of a time-only extension for the FY17 Healey Schoolyard Design CPA contract for an additional 3 years.
32. **210601: Recommend** Requesting approval of a time-only extension for the FY17 CPA grant contract for the Henry Hansen Park Design for an additional 3 years.
33. **210602: Recommend** Requesting approval for a time-only extension of the FY17 Milk Row Cemetery Open Space Master Plan CPA contract through October 2021.
34. **210646: Recommend** Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$151,162.15 using available funds in the DPW Building and Grounds budget.
35. **210647: Recommend** Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$90,120.49 using available funds in the DPW Highway budget.
36. **210648: Recommend** Requesting approval to pay a variety of prior year invoices totaling \$17,214.11 using available funds in the DPW Administration budget.
37. **210649: Recommend** Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$4,409.91 using available funds in the DPW Fleet budget.
38. **210650: Recommend** Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice for \$220 using available funds in the Inspectional Services Department's Staff Development Account for staff training.
39. **210651: Recommend** Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$96 using

available funds in the Health and Human Services Professional & Technical Account for interpreter services.

40. **210652: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of a \$46,800 grant with no new match required, from Metropolitan Area Planning Council to the Health and Human Services Department to reduce transportation barriers to food access.
41. **210653: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of 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.
42. **210654: Recommend** Requesting acceptance of a \$5,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Emergency Management Agency to the Fire Department for emergency management equipment.
43. **210655: Recommend** Requesting approval to enter into a power purchase agreement with Solect Energy Development for a solar system at the East Somerville Community School.
44. **210656: Recommend** Requesting approval to enter into a power purchase agreement with Solect Energy Development for a solar system at the High School.
45. **210657: Recommend** Requesting approval of an easement to Solect Energy Development for installation, maintenance, and operation of a roof-top solar energy system at the East Somerville Community School.
46. **210658: Recommend** Requesting approval of an easement to Solect Energy Development for installation, maintenance, and operation of a roof-top solar energy system at the High School.
47. **210659: Recommend** Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension for the 2017 street resurfacing contract with D&R General Contracting Inc.
48. **210660: Recommend** Requesting approval of the 2020-2021 HUD One Year Action Plan, for CDBG, HOME, and ESG programming.
49. **210661: Recommend** City Solicitor seeking approval of the settlement of a pending claim for \$249,713.69, for damages to the City Hall Annex in 2018.