



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## City Council

### Regular Meeting Agenda

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**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**City Council Chamber and Remote  
Participation**

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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\\_Yp2NY42VTr-Ynb41aOpJDQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Yp2NY42VTr-Ynb41aOpJDQ)

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#### **1. OPENING CEREMONIES**

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| 1.1. | Roll Call<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0163</a> )    | Call of the Roll.  |
| 1.2. | Remembrances<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0164</a> ) | Remembrances.  |
| 1.3. | Minutes<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0165</a> )      | Approval of the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting,<br>January 2, 2024. |
| 1.4. | Minutes<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0166</a> )      | Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, January<br>11, 2024.       |

#### **2. CITATIONS**

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 3.1. Grant of Location      Extenet Systems LLC applying for a Grant of Location to  
(ID # [24-0153](#))      install 54 feet of conduit in Washington Street from  
existing Eversource Utility Pole 358/66 to a proposed  
small wireless facility node on existing Eversource  
Utility Pole 358/66A, located near 415 Washington  
Street.

**4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS**

- 4.1. Order      By Councilor Ewen-Campen  
(ID # [24-0146](#))      That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic  
Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) update  
this Council on current efforts to create a Community  
Center as part of the new developments in Union Square  
and Boynton Yards.
- 4.2. Order      By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Clingan  
(ID # [24-0148](#))      That the Director of Engineering update this Council on  
the policy and plans pertaining to repairing leaking gas  
pipes versus replacing them, and the necessary transition  
away from gas infrastructure.
- 4.3. Resolution      By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Clingan  
(ID # [24-0147](#))      Opposing private jet hangar expansion at Hanscom Civil  
Airport and region wide.
- 4.4. Order      By Councilor Clingan and Councilor Wilson  
(ID # [24-0149](#))      That the Director of Health and Human services create  
an on-call emergency fire response unit to assist in  
connecting residents with available resources in the event  
of a displacement or loss of property due to a fire.

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 5.1. Order      By Councilor Sait, Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor  
(ID # [24-0090](#))      Wilson  
That the Director of Economic Development take the  
steps described within, relative to the Armory building.

**6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES****6.A. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE**

- 6.A.1. Committee Report      Report of the Committee on Confirmation of  
(ID # [24-0136](#))      Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on  
January 31, 2024.

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| 6.A.2. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1767</a> )  | Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Laurie Brandt to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be discharged with no recommendation. |
| 6.A.3. License<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1787</a> )          | Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Darcy Haynes as Constable.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be discharged with no recommendation.                                  |
| 6.A.4. License<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1788</a> )          | Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Alan Bishop as Constable.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be discharged with no recommendation.                                   |
| 6.A.5. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1797</a> )  | Requesting confirmation of the appointment of John Tivinis to the position of Police Officer.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be placed on file.                                   |
| 6.A.6. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1798</a> )  | Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Brian Clancy to the position of Police Officer.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.   |
| 6.A.7. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1799</a> )  | Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Igor Bitencourt to the position of Police Officer.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.                                      |
| 6.A.8. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1801</a> )  | Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Guylerna Pierre to the position of Police Officer.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be placed on file.                                |
| 6.A.9. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1802</a> )  | Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Matthew Lorizio to the position of Police Officer.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.                                      |
| 6.A.10. License<br>(ID # <a href="#">23-1838</a> )         | Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Mary Battinelli as Constable.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be discharged with no recommendation.                               |
| 6.A.11. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0017</a> ) | Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Mark Matthews to the position of Fire District Chief.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.                                     |
| 6.A.12. Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0084</a> ) | Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Austin Brower to the Board of Elections Commissioners.<br>RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.                                  |

- 6.A.13. Order (ID # [24-0116](#)) By Councilor Pineda Neufeld  
That the City Solicitor appear before the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters to discuss the scope and role of the Committee in confirming various appointments.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work completed.

**6.B. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 6.B.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0137](#)) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on February 6, 2024.
- 6.B.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [23-1856](#)) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$35,300 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for partial payment of the police storage structure.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be withdrawn.
- 6.B.3. Mayor's Request (ID # [23-1857](#)) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$42,000 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for partial payment of the police storage structure.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be withdrawn.
- 6.B.4. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0038](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only extension until 12/31/2024 for the contract with Warner Larson Landscape Architects, to complete additional design services and punch list work at the Healey Schoolyard and Athletic Field.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B.5. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0052](#)) Requesting the transfer of \$75,605 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund Undesignated Fund Balance to the Community Housing Reserve.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B.6. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0053](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,405,962 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund Community Housing Reserve to the Affordable Housing Trust.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

- 6.B.7. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0055](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$426,925 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund to the Mystic River Watershed Association for improvements to the Blessing of the Bay Linear Park.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B.8. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0056](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$25,000 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund Historic Preservation Reserve to Vida Real for a condition assessment of the building at 404 Broadway.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B.9. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0057](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only extension of three years for the contract with Vida Real for restoration of the bell tower at 404 Broadway.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B.10. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0067](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only extension until 1/1/2026 for the contract with Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners for design services on the Building Master Plan.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B.11. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0079](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$30,000 grant with no new match required, from MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to the Economic Development Division for the implementation of a green jobs training program for nontraditional students.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.B.12. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0080](#)) Requesting approval of an extension and amendment to the contract with Symmes Maini and McKee Associates for an additional three years to 2/28/2027, and a revised amount of \$978,649, for Central Hill design and construction administration.  
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0133](#)) Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition to authorize the continued employment of Acting Somerville Police Chief Charles J. Femino.
- 7.2. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0144](#)) Requesting ordainment of an amendment to Section 6-59 of the Code of Ordinances, to amend the definition of guidelines.

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| 7.3.  | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0154</a> )          | Requesting the acceptance of a 30-year lease with BRE-BMR Assembly Innovation I LLC, and the appropriation of \$171,969 from Free Cash to the Fire Department Special Items Account to fund said lease, for the Assembly Square Fire Station for the remainder of FY 2024. |
| 7.4.  | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0135</a> )          | Requesting approval to appropriate \$75,900 from the Energy Stabilization Fund for design services for a building project at 42 Cross Street.  |
| 7.5.  | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0134</a> )          | Requesting approval to appropriate \$49,250 from the Energy Stabilization Fund for insulation projects for Department of Public Works steam systems.   |
| 7.6.  | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0129</a> )          | Requesting the transfer of \$280,010 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund Undesignated Fund Balance to the Historic Preservation Reserve.  |
| 7.7.  | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0141</a> )          | Requesting the use of available funds in the amount of \$24,317 from the Library's Personal Services account to reestablish a Librarian III West Branch Manager position.  |
| 7.8.  | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0140</a> )          | Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$48,529.99 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for installation of access controls, card entry access, and indoor fencing.                       |
| 7.9.  | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0128</a> )          | Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$638 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Public Safety Supplies Account for Verizon Fleet subscription services.  |
| 7.10. | Mayor's Request<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0127</a> )          | Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$278.40 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Buildings Plumbing Supply Account for building related plumbing materials.  |
| 7.11. | Mayor's<br>Communication<br>(ID # <a href="#">24-0145</a> ) | Conveying the 2023 Surveillance Technology Annual Report.  |
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**8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

- 8.1. Officer's Communication (ID # [24-0132](#))      Memorialization Committee conveying the naming of a new park as part of the 74 Middlesex Ave development in honor of former State Senator Salvatore "Sal" R Albano.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.1. License (ID # [24-0155](#))      New Automatic Amusement Device, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, for 117 devices.
- 9.2. License (ID # [24-0156](#))      New Billiards and Bowling License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, for 5 billiard tables and 8 bowling lanes.
- 9.3. License (ID # [24-0157](#))      New Extended Operating Hours License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, opening Monday-Sunday until 2am for in-store service only.
- 9.4. License (ID # [24-0158](#))      Transferring Taxi Medallion License, from Silcor Transportation Company Inc to BAETDA Transportation Service LLC for Medallions #51, 77, 93.
- 9.5. License (ID # [24-0159](#))      Transferring Taxi Medallion License, from Ormond Transportation Company Inc to Bostonshuttles.com LP for Medallion #89.
- 9.6. Public Event (ID # [24-0162](#))      Community Growing Center applying for a Public Event License for Maple Boil 2024 on March 1 and 2 from 7:30am to 7:30pm (raindate March 8 and 9).
- 9.7. Public Communication (ID # [24-0142](#))      Danny Dicamillo submitting comments re: BlueBikes.
- 9.8. Public Communication (ID # [24-0143](#))      Tadhg Pearson submitting comments re: sidewalks.
- 9.9. Public Communication (ID # [24-0160](#))      984 individuals, including 7 residents submitting comments re: item 24-0089 a resolution in support of an enduring ceasefire in Gaza.
- 9.10. Public Communication (ID # [24-0161](#))      Representative Mike Connolly submitting comments re: item 24-0089 a resolution in support of an enduring ceasefire in Gaza.

**10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 10.1. Order By Councilor Clingan  
(ID # [24-0150](#)) That the Environmental Health Coordinator discuss alternatives to the use of bait traps containing poison to dispatch rats.
- 10.2. Order By Councilor Clingan  
(ID # [24-0151](#)) That the Director of Water and Sewer address the use of threatening notifications as part of the water meter replacement project.
- 10.3. Order By Councilor Clingan  
(ID # [24-0152](#)) That the Director of Housing and the Director of the Office of Housing Stability discuss the parameters of qualification used by building owners and managers in selecting lottery winners for awarding lower income units.
- 10.4. Citation By Councilor Burnley Jr.  
(ID # [24-0173](#)) Commending Nicole Eigbrett for the relentless pursuit of housing justice as the Director of Community Organizing for the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS).
- 10.5. Order By Councilor Burnley Jr.  
(ID # [24-0169](#)) That the Director of Web Content and Development include the Wage Theft Advisory Committee on the "Departments, Boards, Commissions, and Authorities" page, and compile the agendas and minutes therein.
- 10.6. Order By Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Mbah  
(ID # [24-0168](#)) That the Director of Health and Human Services work with the Administration to allocate funding to secure COVID-19 rapid tests to be distributed at Public Libraries.
- 10.7. Resolution By Councilor Burnley Jr.  
(ID # [24-0167](#)) Recognizing February as Black History Month.
- 10.8. Order By Councilor Strezo  
(ID # [24-0174](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$1,000 from the City Council Legal Services Account to the City Council Office Supplies Account for the purchase of furniture and supplies to create a space for children in the City Council Chamber.



- 10.9. Order  
(ID # [24-0170](#))
- By Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Parking establish alternative drop off zones, including reverse direction drop off zones, in front of the City Hall concourse from the hours of 7:30 AM to 8:15 AM and 2:15 PM to 3:00 PM while portions of Highland Avenue are under active construction near the high school, City Hall and the Central Library.
- 10.10. Order  
(ID # [24-0171](#))
- By Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Mobility and the Director of Parking discuss if and where additional Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) walking routes and ADA parking spots have been designated for visitors to the High School, City Hall and the Central Library while Highland Avenue construction is underway and while current routes and ADA parking spots may be inaccessible due to construction.
- 10.11. Order  
(ID # [24-0172](#))
- By Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss the availability of free city-funded COVID tests going forward after temporary relief funds have evaporated, including any plans and/or consideration of potential sources of COVID testing supplies provided through community partners.
- 10.12. Communication  
(ID # [24-0175](#))
- By Councilor Wilson  
In his capacity as Chair of the Committee on Finance, outlining the process for this Council to determine and convey its shared budget priorities for the Fiscal Year 2025 budget.
- 10.13. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [24-0130](#))
- Requesting the appropriation of \$650,000 from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund for the Capital Projects Division to restore the City Hall clock tower and roof.
- 10.14. License  
(ID # [24-0176](#))
- New Livery License, Boston Novelty Limo LLC, 333 Broadway, operating 1 vehicle.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT