

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the Board of Aldermen

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2011, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen'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.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Absent	
Walter F. Pero	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	

1. #191928 Call of the Roll.
Roll Call

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

2. #191929 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, July 14, 2011.
Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED

Discussion

Mayor Curtatone introduced Antonio Raimondi, the Honorable Mayor of Gaeta, Italy. Mayor Raimondi explained that he was here for the 85th annual Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian, the patron saints of Gaeta, and for the 10th Anniversary commemoration of the attacks of September 11, 2001. He also remarked on the Sister Cities relationship between Somerville and Gaeta, and spoke favorably of the student exchange program between the cities' high schools.

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. #191930 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Gas, for 145 feet of plastic gas main
Grant of Location extending from an existing gas main near 259 Lowell St.

RESULT: APPROVED

Ald. Roche recused.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

4. #191931 By Ald. Roche
Order That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance fining homeowners and contractors who remove a Stop Work order posted by the City on buildings undergoing unauthorized construction work.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

5. #191932 By Ald. Heuston
Order The Director of Traffic and Parking install signage at Mondamin Court and Harrison Street to deter vehicles from entering in the wrong direction.

RESULT: APPROVED

6. #191933 By Ald. Heuston
Order The Director of Traffic and Parking install a STOP sign at the intersection of Windsor and South Streets, at 111 South Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. #191934 By Ald. Heuston
Order The Director of Traffic and Parking install a BLIND DRIVEWAY sign at the intersection of Hammond and Dickinson Streets.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. #191935 By Ald. Heuston, Pero
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalk panel at 143 Walnut Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

9. #191936 By Ald. Heuston
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalk panels at 18 and 20 Granite Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

10. #191937 Order By Ald. Heuston
The Director of Traffic and Parking install a STOP sign at the intersection of Linwood Street and the Somerville Avenue extension.

RESULT: APPROVED

11. #191938 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalk panel at 23 Allen Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

12. #191939 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD meet with the Ward 2 Alderman about designating an area of Ward 2 "Duck Village" in keeping with its history.

RESULT: APPROVED

13. #191940 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the damaged CRAIGIE STREET sign at its intersection with Somerville Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

14. #191941 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works determine the cause of excessive flooding and water on Tremont Place and report back to the Ward 2 Alderman.

RESULT: APPROVED

15. #191942 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the uneven bricks near the basketball courts at the Cummings School.

RESULT: APPROVED

16. #191943 Order By Ald. Heuston
The City Engineer and the City Solicitor inform the Ward 2 Alderman whether the Somerville Avenue extension is a City street or the property of another entity, and what rights the city has there.

RESULT: APPROVED

17. #191944 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works report back to this Board on the completion of the Somerville Avenue MA Highway project and the timeframe for accepting the street from the State.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

18. #191945
Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of Traffic and Parking add signage behind the Rite Aid Pharmacy, at the entrance of the community path, indicating that no cars are allowed.

RESULT: APPROVED

19. #191946
Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works direct Verizon to remove empty or abandoned telephone booths throughout the city, in particular, the booth in Davis Square on Elm Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

20. #191947
Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works reinforce and support the trees lining Grove Street at Elm Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

21. #191948
Order
By Ald. Connolly, Taylor
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the sidewalk panel at 30 Summer Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

22. #191949
Order
By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works institute a program to trim all low hanging branches from all public shade trees and remove all overgrown weeds and growth from tree wells.

RESULT: APPROVED

23. #191950
Order
By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the broken sidewalk at the corner of Cutter and Highland Avenues.

RESULT: APPROVED

24. #191951
Order
By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lamps on College Avenue at Winter Street and at the crosswalk near the MBTA light shaft.

RESULT: APPROVED

25. #191952 By Ald. Gewirtz
Communication That Alderman John M. Connolly is hereby appointed to the SomerPromise Board of Trustees as this Board's representative.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

26. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

- A. #191953 Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments, meeting on
Committee Report September 8, 2011.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #190342 Requesting the Appointment of Joseph Topol as Constable.
Mayor's Request

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- C. #191264 Requesting the appointment of Berlin Haynes as Constable.
Mayor's Request

RESULT: APPROVED

- D. #191754 Requesting the re-appointment of Albert Darling as Constable.
Mayor's Request

RESULT: APPROVED

- E. #191843 Requesting the appointment of Matthew Liebhold to the Conservation
Mayor's Request Commission.

RESULT: APPROVED

- F. #191891 Requesting the appointment of Matthew Kane to the Fire Reserve List.
Mayor's Request

RESULT: APPROVED

- G. #191892 Requesting the appointment of Daniel Donegan to the Fire Reserve List.
Mayor's Request

RESULT: APPROVED

27. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. #191954 Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on September 7, 2011.
Committee Report

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #191637 Requesting approval of the FY 2012 General Fund Operating Budget in the
Mayor's Request amount of \$169,732,903.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- C. #191638 Requesting approval of the FY 2012 Sewer Enterprise Budget in the amount
Mayor's Request of \$17,609,387.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- D. #191639 Requesting approval of the FY 2012 Water Enterprise Budget in the amount
Mayor's Request of \$12,156,478

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- E. #191835 Requesting a permanent easement to MA DOT for land in front of the Gold
Mayor's Request Star Memorial Library on Broadway to facilitate streetscape improvements.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Roche, Heuston,
Pero, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Thomas F. Taylor, Sean T. O'Donovan

AMENDED: That the phrase, "which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed," be added to the end of the second "Whereas" clause.

- F. #191836 Requesting an appropriation of \$120,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund
Mayor's Request to purchase a Zamboni machine for the Veterans Memorial Skating Rink.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Roche, Heuston,
Pero, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Thomas F. Taylor, Sean T. O'Donovan

- G. #191839 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to pay multiple prior-year FY11 invoices using FY12 funds in the Dept. of Public Works.

RESULT: APPROVED

- H. #191840 Mayor's Request Requesting to declare surplus a 1994 Ford Crown Victoria automobile in the Fire Dept.

RESULT: APPROVED

- I. #191875 Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$490,333 from the Salary Contingency Acct. to various Police Dept. Personal Services Accts. to fund the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Somerville Police Superior Officers Association for July 1, 2009-June 30, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- J. #191876 Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$46,884 from the Salary Contingency Acct. to various E-911 Personal Services Accts. to fund the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Somerville E-911 Call Taker/Dispatchers, Local 888, for July 1, 2010-June 30, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- K. #191880 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$174,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to the Veteran's Ice Rink Enterprise Fund for locker room renovations.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Roche, Heuston, Pero, Gewirtz, Trane
ABSENT: Thomas F. Taylor, Sean T. O'Donovan

28. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. #191955 Committee Report 2011. Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on September 6, Committee Report 2011.

RESULT: APPROVED

29. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. #191956 Committee Report 2011. Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on September 7, Committee Report 2011.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #191802 Grant of Location submitted by NStar, for 57 feet of conduit installed in Grant of Location Warwick St.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED

AMENDED: That NStar shall return the street to its original condition upon completion of the work.

- C. #191862 Renewing Lodging House License, Walnut Hill Properties dba Sigma Phi License/Permit Epsilon, 114 Curtis St., 10 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- D. #191863 Renewing Lodging House License, Walnut Hill Properties dba Alpha License/Permit Omicron Pi, 25 Whitfield Rd., 12 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- E. #191864 Renewing Lodging House License, Walnut Hill Properties dba Alpha Phi, 14 License/Permit Sawyer Ave., 8 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- F. #191865 Renewing Lodging House License, Walnut Hill Properties dba Theta Chi, License/Permit 100 Packard Ave., 11 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- G. #191893 Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 12 Dearborn Rd., 14 License/Permit residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- H. #191894 Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 32 Dearborn Rd., 12 License/Permit residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- I. #191895 Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 8 Professors Row, 16 License/Permit residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

- J. #191896 Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 14 Professors Row, 12 License/Permit residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

K. #191897 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 28 Professors Row, 42 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

L. #191898 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 56-64 Professors Row, 84 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

M. #191899 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 92 Professors Row, 10 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

N. #191900 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 106 Professors Row, 22 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

O. #191901 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 136 Curtis St., 49 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

P. #191902 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 176 Curtis St., 10 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

Q. #191903 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 90-92-94 Curtis St., 19 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

R. #191904 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 45 Sawyer Ave., 15 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

S. #191905 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 37 Sawyer Ave., 14 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

T. #191906 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 13 Sawyer Ave., 16 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

U. #191907 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 8 Whitfield Rd., 10 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

V. #191908 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 15 Whitfield Rd., 10 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

W. #191909 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 21 Whitfield Rd., 7 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

X. #191910 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 100 Talbot Ave., 157 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

Y. #191911 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 101 Talbot Ave., 7 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

Z. #191912 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 45 Talbot Ave., 49 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AA. #191913 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 13-15 Talbot Ave., 126 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AB. #191914 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 17 Latin Way, 6 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AC. #191915 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 40A-F Latin Way, 216 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AD. #191916 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 29 Latin Way, 116 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AE. #191917 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 43 Latin Way, 156 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AF. #191918 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 39R Latin Way, 152 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AG. #191919 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 75-85 Packard Ave., 222 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AH. #191920 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 98 Packard Ave., 12 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AI. #191921 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 73 Powderhouse Blvd., 378 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AJ. #191922 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 125 Powderhouse Blvd., 11 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

AK. #191923 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Tufts University, 9-11 Sunset Rd., 6 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

30. #191957 Mayor's Request Requesting the creation of the 270 Cedar Street LLC Stabilization Fund and the acceptance of a mitigation payment of \$1,000 from 270 Cedar Street LLC to purchase pedestrian safety devices.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

31. #191958 Mayor's Request Requesting approval for the Personnel Dept. to use FY 2012 funds to pay FY 2011 invoices totalling \$7,133.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

32. #191959 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to accept a \$25,000 MA Emergency Management Performance Grant for the Fire Dept. to purchase equipment.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

NEW BUSINESS

33. #191960 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Stereo Drive-By Concert, Davis Sq. Statue Park, Sep 24, 4PM (raindate Oct 1).

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

34. #191961 License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Kappa Charge Theta Delta Chi, 123 Packard Ave., 22 residents.

RESULT: APPROVED

35. #191962 License/Permit New Hawker Peddler License, RCN Becocom, Communications services.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

36. #191963 License/Permit New Outdoor Seating License, Painted Burro, 219 Elm St., 2 planters.

RESULT: APPROVED

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

37. #191964 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Chief of Police provide a directed patrol at Conway Park at various times to deter the theft of the aluminum bleachers.

RESULT: APPROVED

38. #191965 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) direct the Rite Aid Pharmacy on Somerville Avenue to remove overhanging branches and vegetation that is blocking the traffic signals.

RESULT: APPROVED

39. #191966 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works provide signage at Osgood Park instructing dog owners to pick up after their dogs.

RESULT: APPROVED

40. #191967 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Chief of Police provide a directed patrol at Osgood Park during the late evening and overnight hours to monitor activity in the park.

RESULT: APPROVED

41. #191968 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works install additional lighting in Osgood Park to illuminate park activity while not adversely affecting neighbors.

RESULT: APPROVED

42. #191969 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works clean Osgood Park and provide the Ward Two Alderman with the regular cleaning schedule of the park.

RESULT: APPROVED

43. #191970 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$750,000 for the cost of replacing DPW equipment and authorization to borrow \$750,000 in a bond to meet the appropriation.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

44. #191971 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$45,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the purchase of 1 Ford 14-passenger van for the Police Dept.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

45. #191972 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$25,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the purchase of 1 License Plate Reader system for the Police Dept.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

46. #191973 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$5,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the purchase of 1 Laptop for the Police Dept.'s License Plate Reader System.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

47. #191974 Officer's Communication Traffic and Parking Director responding to various Board Orders.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

48. #191975 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Prospect Hill Block Party, Prospect Hill Park, Sep 17, 3-7PM (raindate Sep 18) (amending #191850, approved for 4-8PM).

RESULT: APPROVED

49. #191976 License/Permit Public Event Permit, 29 Miller St. Pig Roast with Live Music, 29 Miller St., Sep 17, Noon-8PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

50. #191977 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Chandler St. Block Party, Chandler St. from Park Ave. to Chapel St., Sep 24, 4-7PM (raindate Sep 25).

RESULT: APPROVED

51. #191978 License/Permit Renewing Garage License, APCA Third Avenue LLC, 48 Third Ave., 42 autos inside.

RESULT: APPROVED

52. #191979 License/Permit New Used Car Dealer's License Class II, PJ's Auto Sales, 161 Broadway, 67 autos in, 4 out.

RESULT: APPROVED

LATE ITEMS

53. #191980 Order By Ald. Trane, O'Donovan, Sullivan, Roche, Desmond
That the City Solicitor appear at this Board's next meeting to discuss how the City can work with the Attorney General and the State Auditor to develop local rules to create greater transparency for nonprofits receiving taxpayer funds.

RESULT: APPROVED

54. #191981 Order By Ald. Sullivan
That the City Clerk contact NStar Electric to request that a representative appear before this Board to explain the process for requesting commercial service.

RESULT: APPROVED

Ald. Roche recused.

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

55. #191982 Mayor's Communication Communicating to this Board regarding a Capital Projects planning update.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

56. #191983 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Matthew Kane to the position of Permanent Firefighter.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

57. #191984 Requesting the appointment of Daniel Donegan to the position of Permanent Mayor's Request Firefighter.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk