

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

December 17, 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/7785265115320907276.](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7785265115320907276)

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # 23951)
2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # 23952)
3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
(ID # 23953) November 24, 2020.

CITATIONS

4. Citation By City Councilor Rossetti
(ID # 23944) Commending City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin for his distinguished service as President of this Council in 2020.
5. Citation By City Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # 23945) Commending City Councilor Mary Jo Rossetti for her distinguished service as Vice President of this Council in 2020.
6. Citation By City Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # 23946) Commending Clerk of Committees Rositha Durham for her outstanding service to this Council and its Committees in 2020.

- 7. Citation (ID # 23947) By City Councilor McLaughlin
Commending Legislative Clerk Peter Forcellese for his outstanding service to this Council and its Committees in 2020.
- 8. Citation (ID # 23948) By City Councilor McLaughlin
Commending Assistant Clerk of Committees Kimberly Wells for her outstanding service to this Council and its Committees in 2020.
- 9. Citation (ID # 23950) By City Councilor McLaughlin
Commending City Clerk John Long for his outstanding work on behalf of this Council in 2020.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 10. Grant of Location (ID # 23927) Submitted by Verizon to install 25 feet of conduit in Washington Street, from existing conduit to a point of pickup at the rear of 4 Joy Street.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 11. Order (ID # 23923) By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Director of Finance update this Council at its meeting on December 17, 2020 on the financial health of the city, including CARES funds updates.
- 12. Order (ID # 23924) By City Councilor Mbah
That the Administration provide clear guidelines on how and when creatives and freelancers are able to start working again.
- 13. Order (ID # 23925) By City Councilor Mbah
That the Administration provide a more uniform and justifiable decision on the banning of activities due to Covid-19.
- 14. Resolution (ID # 23926) By City Councilor Niedergang, Ewen-Campen
Calling on the State's House of Representatives to pass 3 transparency amendments to the House Rules for the 2021-22 legislative session.
- 15. Order (ID # 23939) By City Councilor Niedergang, Mbah
That the Director of SomerStat, the Director of SPCD, and the Director of Parking re-convene the Parking Study Task Force in January 2021.

16. Order (ID # 23940) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD report to this Council on traffic calming for the stretch of Broadway between the Ball Square Bridge and Cedar Street.
17. Communication (ID # 23941) By City Councilor Rossetti
Reporting on the High School Building Committee meeting of December 14, 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

18. Resolution 210994 By City Councilor Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne, Strezo
That the Mayor and the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management report to this Council no later than January 28, 2021 on the future of the Brown School and plans to use it in the 2021-2022 school year.
19. Resolution 211024 By City Councilor Niedergang, Davis, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.
That the Mayor appear before this Council at its December 17, 2020 meeting to update the Council on the status of school buildings and when they will be ready for in-person learning.
20. Resolution 211025 By City Councilor Niedergang, Davis, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.
That the Mayor appear before this Council at its December 17, 2020 meeting to update the Council regarding Covid-19 restrictions and policies in light of the increased spread of the virus.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

21. EQUITY, GENDER, FAMILIES AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23936) Report of the Committee on Equity, Gender, Families and Vulnerable Populations, meeting on December 14, 2020.
- B. Order 206647 By City Councilor McLaughlin, Hirsch, Clingan
That the Director of Parks and Recreation express to DCR the importance of keeping public pools and water fountains open later in the season due to climate change.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- C. Order 206854 By City Councilor Hirsch, Mbah
That the Director of Health and Human Services work with the Public Schools to allow whole fruits to be saved for use as snacks, given that many children often go without snacks.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Resolution 208163 By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Administration report to the Youth Services Committee the feasibility of adding a budget line to make school facilities more affordable for use by community groups by helping to cover custodial fees.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Order 208229 By City Councilor Clingan, Niedergang, Davis
That the Director of Parks and Recreation address the security breach at the Kennedy School pool by either assigning a door monitor or locking the door and installing another system to monitor who comes and goes through the Sartwell Avenue door that leads directly to the pool area and into the school.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- F. Order 208375 By City Councilor Mbah
That the Director of Communications create an online and paper sign-up for any citywide event, to make it easy to email them the bus schedule and any other last-minute details.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- G. Resolution 209473 By City Councilor Hirsch, Niedergang
That the Administration update this Council on the teen snow shoveling program, including shoveler recruitment efforts and new income eligibility restrictions for enrollees.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- H. Order 209796 By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Director of Parks and Recreation arrange to have port-a-potties available at the public parks for the 2020 summer months.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Order (ID # 23962) By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Chief of Police and the Director of Health and Human Services discuss the data collected and the mental health impacts that the lockdown drills have on school age children.

22. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23935) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on December 14, 2020.

- B. Officer's Communication 210754 Special Counsel submitting a Home Rule Petition to permit Cambridge to provide, at no cost to Somerville, snow plowing and removal, water, storm water drainage, sanitary sewer, police, fire, and other emergency services to the Somerville building in the development known as Cambridge Crossing.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- C. Mayor's Request 210859 Requesting acceptance of a \$295,463 grant with no new match required, from the State 911 Office to the Police Department to fund E911 personnel costs.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- D. Mayor's Request 210861 Requesting acceptance of a \$89,234.57 grant with no new match required, from the State E911 Office to the Police Department for 911 training and the certification of 911 telecommunicators.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- E. Mayor's Request 210865 Requesting acceptance of an \$6,233.33 grant with no new match required, from the MA Dept of Public Health to the Police Department to purchase and provide training for Naxalone.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- F. Mayor's Request 210867 Requesting approval of a contract extension for the KZLA Architects construction administration contract for services at Prospect Hill Park.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- G. Mayor's Request 210868 Requesting approval of a contract extension for the NELM Corp construction contract for services at Prospect Hill Park.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- H. Mayor's Request 210904 Requesting acceptance of a \$50,000 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for the purchase of maritime equipment to enhance responses to marine incidents.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- I. Mayor's Request 210905 Requesting acceptance of a \$24,500 grant with no new match required, from the State 911 Office to the Police Department to fund E911 emergency medical dispatch services.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- J. Mayor's Request 210941 Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,591,206 in a bond for Dilboy Stadium improvements.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- K. Mayor's Request 210945 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.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

- L. Mayor's Request 210946 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.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- M. Mayor's Request 211008 Requesting the appropriation of \$143,766 from the Receipts Reserved Insurance Reimbursement Account to the DPW Highway Capital Vehicle Account, to replace the bucket truck that caught fire in 2018.
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- N. Mayor's Request 211009 Requesting the transfer of \$9,900 in the Sewer Enterprise Fund, from its Sewer Repairs Account to its Judgments and Settlements Account, to settle a pending claim.
RECOMMENDED: Approved

23. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23937) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on December 16, 2020.
- B. Order 206200 By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Commissioner of Public Works share the policy for removing items that are blocking sidewalks.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 206233 By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD develop an affordable housing program targeted especially at city employees whose income is below a certain threshold level.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

24. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23938) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on December 17, 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 25. Mayor's Request (ID # 23932) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$2,500,000 in a bond for HVAC improvements to school and municipal buildings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 26. Mayor's Request (ID # 23847) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Aladdine Joroff to the Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change.
- 27. Mayor's Request (ID # 23890) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Tim Talun to the Urban Design Commission.

- 28. Mayor's Request (ID # 23891) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Heidi Cron to the Urban Design Commission.
- 29. Mayor's Request (ID # 23892) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kerri Connolly to the Urban Design Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

NEW BUSINESS

- 30. License/Permit (ID # 23931) Renewing Garage License, Partners Healthcare System, 21 Third Ave.
- 31. License/Permit (ID # 23928) Renewing Garage License, Junior Auto Body, 486R Columbia St.
- 32. License/Permit (ID # 23929) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, 28 Motorsports, 486R Columbia St.
- 33. License/Permit (ID # 23930) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Master Used Cars, 121 Prospect St.
- 34. License/Permit (ID # 23933) Renewing Automatic Amusement Devices License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Dr.
- 35. License/Permit (ID # 23934) Renewing Fortune Teller License, Sean Tene dba Astrology Studio, 3 Holland St.
- 36. Public Communication (ID # 23954) PERAC submitting the required FY22 retirement system appropriation.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 37. Order (ID # 23967) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Health and Human Services and the Director of Inspectional Services inspect 49 Chetwynd Road and abutting properties for rat burrows and rid the area of rats.
- 38. Order (ID # 23983) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Health and Human Services advise this Council at its December 17, 2020 meeting what metrics are being used to determine closure of the 'recreation' sector and advise which sectors are allowed to be open.

39. Resolution (ID # 23990) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen That a Representative from Eversource appear before this Council to address reports about an October 16, 2020 incident at 20 Berkeley St.
40. Mayor's Communication (ID # 23970) Conveying a summary to accompany "repurpose and transfer" requests which seek to provide critical temporary financial assistance to local businesses and artists in light of Covid-19 impacts on the local economy.
41. Mayor's Request (ID # 23949) Requesting approval to create the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.
42. Mayor's Request (ID # 23961) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,843,117 from the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund to the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.
43. Mayor's Request (ID # 23960) Requesting the repurpose and transfer of \$1 million from the Capital Stabilization Fund to the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.
44. Mayor's Request (ID # 23958) Requesting the repurpose and transfer of \$1,500,000 from the Street Reconstruction and Resurfacing Stabilization Fund to the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.
45. Mayor's Request (ID # 23955) Requesting approval to accept and repurpose a payment of \$300,000 from the Wynn Casino Surrounding Community Agreement to the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.
46. Mayor's Request (ID # 23956) Requesting the repurpose and transfer of \$150,306 from the Water Transportation Public Safety Stabilization Fund to the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.
47. Mayor's Request (ID # 23959) Requesting the repurpose and transfer of \$132,359 from the Algonquin Mitigation Stabilization Fund to the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.
48. Mayor's Request (ID # 23957) Requesting the repurpose and transfer of \$74,218 from the Small Business Assistance Stabilization Fund to the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.

49. Mayor's Request (ID # 23966) Requesting the appropriation of \$5 million from the COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Fund in order to provide temporary support to Somerville businesses experiencing substantial decline as a result of the pandemic.
50. Mayor's Request (ID # 23964) Requesting approval to accept a payment of \$200,000 from the Wynn Casino Surrounding Community Agreement to the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund to provide Covid Relief grants to the artist and cultural community.
51. Mayor's Request (ID # 23963) Requesting the repurpose and transfer of \$400,000 from Parks Stabilization to the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund to provide COVID relief grants to the artist and cultural community.
52. Mayor's Request (ID # 23965) Requesting the appropriation of \$600,000 from the Covid 19 Stablization Fund to provide Covid relief grants to the arts and cultural community.
53. Mayor's Communication (ID # 23976) Communicating information to accompany requests for consideration of items necessary to continue City services related to its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
54. Mayor's Request (ID # 23971) Requesting approval to appropriate \$121,090 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for Resident Outreach & Communications.
55. Mayor's Request (ID # 23972) Requesting approval to appropriate \$39,493 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for 311 Call Center Resources.
56. Mayor's Request (ID # 23973) Requesting approval to appropriate \$291,000 from the COVID-19 Stabilization Fund for Testing and Contract Tracing.
57. Mayor's Request (ID # 23974) Requesting approval to appropriate \$170,000 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and supplies.
58. Mayor's Request (ID # 23975) Requesting approval to appropriate \$120,000 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for Out of School Time Programming.
59. Mayor's Request (ID # 23977) Requesting approval to appropriate \$45,000 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for Health and Safety Compliance Activities.

60. Mayor's Request (ID # 23978) Requesting approval to appropriate \$180,000 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for School Resources.
61. Mayor's Request (ID # 23979) Requesting approval to appropriate \$37,760 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for School Wellness Staffing.
62. Mayor's Request (ID # 23980) Requesting approval to appropriate \$142,500 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for Public Safety Overtime.
63. Mayor's Request (ID # 23981) Requesting approval to appropriate \$170,477 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for DPW Overtime for School Reopening Purposes.
64. Mayor's Request (ID # 23982) Requesting the appropriation of \$100,000 from the COVID 19 Stabilization Fund for the purpose of the 25% FEMA Cost Share Match.
65. Mayor's Request (ID # 23906) Requesting acceptance of a \$42,335 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Public Health to the Health & Human Services Department for COVID 19 expenses.
66. Mayor's Request (ID # 23969) Requesting acceptance of a \$16,150 grant that requires a match, from FEMA to the Fire Department for updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
67. Mayor's Request (ID # 23984) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Pole Cameras.
68. Mayor's Request (ID # 23985) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Homeland Security Cameras.
69. Mayor's Request (ID # 23986) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for GLX Cameras.
70. Mayor's Request (ID # 23987) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Covert Device Cameras.
71. Mayor's Request (ID # 23988) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for GPS and Monitor.
72. Mayor's Request (ID # 23989) Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for GreyKey.

73. Officer's Communication (ID # 23943) City Solicitor submitting an ordinance to amend the membership of the Police Chief Selection Committee, replacing the Director of Multicultural Affairs with the Director of Racial and Social Justice.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT