

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2021, 7:00 PM
 City Council Chamber and Remote Participation

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the City Council'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 CEREMONIES

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Wilfred N. Mbah	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Kristen Strezo	City Councilor at Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One City Councilor	Present	
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Ward Two City Councilor	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Ward Three City Councilor	Present	
Jesse Clingan	Ward Four City Councilor	Present	
Mark Niedergang	Ward Five City Councilor	Present	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six City Councilor	Present	
Katjana Ballantyne	Ward Seven City Councilor	Present	

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
 212707
 (ID:27701) **RESULT: APPROVED**

2. Remembrances Remembrances.
 212708
 (ID:27702) Councilor Ewen-Campen sponsored a moment of silence for Jalel Brown-Cross.
 Councilors Clingan, White and McLaughlin sponsored a moment of silence for Michael Terrio.
 Councilors Ballantyne, White and Rossetti sponsored a moment of silence for Carol DoCouto.

 RESULT: APPROVED

3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, November 9, 2021.
 212709
 (ID:27703) **RESULT: APPROVED**

CITATIONS

4. Citation 212710 (ID:27715) By City Councilor McLaughlin Commending Paul Nonni on the occasion of his retirement from the Inspectional Services Department after 36 years of distinguished service.

RESULT: APPROVED

5. Citation 212711 (ID:27709) Commending outgoing Councilor Katjana Ballantyne for her outstanding service to the people of Somerville as Ward 7 City Councilor from 2014 to 2021.

Councilor Ballantyne thanked the voters of Ward 7 for allowing her to represent them and she also thanked her colleagues on the Council. Members of the Council spoke individually about Councilor Ballantyne and thanked her for her service.

RESULT: APPROVED

6. Citation 212712 (ID:27710) Commending outgoing Councilor Wilfred N. Mbah for his outstanding service to the people of Somerville as City Councilor at Large from 2018 to 2021.

Councilor Mbah thanked everyone for the opportunities afforded him and for the privilege of being able to serve the residents of Somerville. Members of the Council spoke individually about Councilor Mbah and thanked him for his service.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. Citation 212713 (ID:27711) Commending outgoing Councilor Mark Niedergang for his outstanding service to the people of Somerville as Ward 5 City Councilor from 2014 to 2021.

Councilor Niedergang thanked the voters of Ward 5, his constituents, the Mayor and his staff, and his colleagues on the Council. Members of the Council spoke individually about Councilor Niedergang and thanked him for his service.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. Citation 212714 (ID:27712) Commending outgoing Councilor Mary Jo Rossetti for her outstanding service to the people of Somerville as City Councilor at Large from 2014 to 2021.

Councilor Rossetti reflected on her years as an elected official, first as a School Committee person and currently as a Councilor at Large. She spoke about traveling around the country to learn about and advocate for initiatives that would benefit all schools in the country. She shared some memorabilia collected over the years and thanked each councilor, individually, for their service and highlighted many of the accomplishments of the current Council. Councilor Rossetti thanked her family for the sacrifices they made over the years and lastly she thanked the clerks for their assistance. Members of the Council spoke individually about Councilor Rossetti and thanked her for her service.

RESULT: APPROVED

9. Citation 212715 (ID:27713) Commending outgoing Councilor William A. White, Jr. for his outstanding service to the people of Somerville as City Councilor at Large from 1998 to 2021.

Councilor White recounted the first time he was in City Hall, some 50 years ago, and spoke about growing up in Somerville and how the city helped to shape him. He spoke about the changes seen over the years in housing, transportation and real estate speculation/development. He spoke about the bias against Italian and Irish people in the early 1900's, and the political makeup of the city. Councilor White thanked the residents who voted for him, allowing him to serve the city. He also thanked his colleagues on the Council and the clerks. Members of the Council spoke individually about Councilor White and thanked him for his service.

RESULT: APPROVED

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| 10. Citation
212716
(ID:27714) | Commending outgoing Mayor Joseph Curtatone for his outstanding service to the people of Somerville as Mayor from 2004 to 2021. |
| | <p>Mayor Curtatone spoke about his time growing up in the city and his decision to run for public office.</p> <p>He commented that the progress made by the city was the result of government working together for the betterment of its citizens.</p> <p>He spoke about each councilor, individually, thanking them for their dedication and passion.</p> <p>Members of the Council spoke individually about Mayor Curtatone and thanked him for his leadership and service.</p> |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 11. Citation
212717
(ID:27707) | Commending Councilor Matthew McLaughlin for his distinguished service as President of this Council in 2021. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 12. Citation
212718
(ID:27708) | Commending Councilor Mary Jo Rossetti for her distinguished service as Vice President of this Board in 2021. |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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| 13. Grant of
Location
212719
(ID:27678) | Submitted by Comcast to install a total of 295 feet of conduit in Poplar and Joy Streets. |
| | <p>President McLaughlin opened the public hearing. Mr. David Flewelling from Comcast spoke in favor of this item. There being no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.</p> |
| | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 14. Grant of
Location
212720
(ID:27679) | Submitted by Verizon to install 192 feet of conduit in Somerville Avenue from manhole 42 to a handhole near 343 Somerville Avenue. |
| | <p>President McLaughlin opened the public hearing. Mr. Oscar Lainez from Verizon spoke in favor of this item. There being no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing. Councilor Scott asked where the traffic management plan is for this project. Mr. Lainez said that he would contact his office for the information.</p> |
| | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee |

15. Grant of Location 212721 (ID:27680) Submitted by Level 3 to install a total of 510 feet of conduit starting from manhole 0515-3800 located at the intersection of Poplar and Chestnut Streets, continuing to a proposed vault at 28 Chestnut Street.

President McLaughlin opened the public hearing. Mr. Bill Conway from Level 3 spoke in favor of this item. There being no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing. Councilor Scott asked for a copy of the traffic management plan. The item was approved on the condition that a traffic management plan be submitted by December 18, 2021.

RESULT: APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

CONDITION: Applicant must submit a traffic management plan by 12/18/21.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

16. Mayor's Request 211693 (ID:24483) Veto - Requesting approval of proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinances at Article 8.2 - Small Business Overlay District, and to the Zoning Map.

The Council voted to sustain the veto.

RESULT: NOT APPROVED. [0 TO 10]

NAYS: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

ABSENT: White Jr.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

17. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 212722 (ID:27657) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on December 1, 2021.

Councilor Scott presented the Committee Report and reviewed the recommendations of the committee.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. Officer's Communication 206099 (ID:18830) City Solicitor submitting an Ordinance to replace Ordinance 5-32 regarding Fire Department salaries.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- C. Ordinance 207740 (ID:20660) By City Councilor White Jr., Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah Proposing an amendment to Ordinance 2-124 to permit the City Solicitor to settle legal actions of up to \$5,000 against the City.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

D.	Mayor's Request 209826 (ID:22722)	Requesting the appropriation of \$486,805 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for heavy equipment/vehicles for the Parks and Recreation Department to manage the city's athletic fields and facilities.	RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
E.	Mayor's Request 212448 (ID:27374)	Requesting an opportunity for the ARPA Director and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council to provide this Council with an overview of ARPA.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
F.	Officer's Communication 212451 (ID:27364)	Fire Chief responding to Item 211748, providing data on calls and responses to the Assembly Square neighborhood.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
G.	Mayor's Request 212517 (ID:27476)	Requesting approval to appropriate and transfer \$8,796,290 from the Facility Construction and Renovation Stabilization Fund to the Somerville High School Construction Fund.	RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
H.	Mayor's Request 212548 (ID:27488)	Requesting an amendment to the Somerville High School Construction appropriation to a new amount of \$278,790,633 and increasing the amount of bonds, fund transfers, and other available funds of the city authorized to meet said appropriation.	RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
I.	Officer's Communication 212612 (ID:27544)	Somerville Retirement Board requesting approval to increase the Cost of Living Adjustment Base for retirees from \$14,000 to \$15,000	RESULT: APPROVED
J.	Mayor's Request 212623 (ID:27556)	Requesting approval to appropriate \$74,326.85 from the Energy Stabilization Fund for projects to reduce carbon emissions and energy costs of City operations.	RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
K.	Officer's Communication 212635 (ID:27574)	Chief Assessor requesting to appear before the City Council for the tax classification hearing on November 23, 2021.	RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- L. Mayor's Request 212664 (ID:27621) Requesting an amendment to the Somerville High School Construction appropriation to a new amount of \$283,859,233 and increasing the amount of bonds, fund transfers, and other available funds of the city authorized to meet said appropriation.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

- M. Mayor's Request 212665 (ID:27623) Requesting the appropriation of \$148,950 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Communications-Office of Immigrant Affairs Salaries Account to establish several new positions.

RESULT: APPROVED

- N. Mayor's Request 212666 (ID:27622) Requesting the appropriation of \$52,050 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to various Ordinary Maintenance Accounts in the Communications-Office of Immigrant Affairs Department.

RESULT: APPROVED

- O. Mayor's Request 212667 (ID:27624) Requesting the appropriation of \$22,988 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to Communications-Office of Immigrant Affairs Salaries for salary adjustments.

RESULT: APPROVED

18. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 212723 (ID:27660) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on December 7, 2021.

Councilor Scott presented the Committee Report and reviewed the recommendations of the committee. He spoke in detail about requests to pay prior year invoices in the DPW and noted that those items were discharged without a recommendation. Councilor Scott noted that after further investigation, no malfeasance was found, and the invoices were deemed to be authentic, although they spanned a period longer than the prior fiscal year. Councilor Rossetti asked incoming Mayor Ballantyne to look closely at the DPW numbers for the past several years. Items #212624, #212628 and #212699 were approved. Councilor Scott later moved for reconsideration of Item #212699, noting that Item #212766 was intended to replace it. The item was reconsidered and the earlier vote for approval was reversed.

RESULT: APPROVED

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| B. | Order
212400
(ID:27330) | By City Councilor Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo
That the Director of Finance and the Treasurer create a separate revenue account for deposit of all funds received from handicapped parking violations, and allocate said funds to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities, as authorized under MGL. |
| | | RESULT: WORK COMPLETED |
| C. | Mayor's
Request
212624
(ID:27414) | Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$1,096,778.31 using available funds in the Buildings Division for outstanding Electricity and Natural Gas charges. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED |
| D. | Mayor's
Request
212625
(ID:27412) | Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$23,379.67 from various DPW Divisions as listed below and attached. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED |
| E. | Mayor's
Request
212628
(ID:27547) | Requesting approval of a 1 Year Extension for the Dagle Electrical Contract |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED |
| F. | Mayor's
Request
212661
(ID:27615) | Requesting approval of the Clarendon Hill District Improvement Financing (DIF) Development Program. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
| G. | Mayor's
Request
212662
(ID:27616) | Requesting approval of Clarendon Hill District Improvement Financing (DIF) Development District. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
| H. | Mayor's
Request
212699
(ID:27614) | Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$63,474.53 using available funds in the DPW Department from various Admin, Fleet, Buildings, Sanitation, and Highway accounts. |
| | | RESULT: NOT APPROVED. [0 TO 10]
NAYS: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
ABSENT: White Jr. |

19. LAND USE COMMITTEE

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| <p>A. Committee Report
212724
(ID:27656)</p> | <p>Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on November 30, 2021.</p> | <p>Councilor Ewen-Campen presented the Committee Report and explained the amendments that were recommended for approval by the committee. Additional details may be found in the committee report. Items #202309 and #212541 were enrolled and ordained.
RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
| <p>B. Mayor's Request
212309
(ID:26182)</p> | <p>Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for MPD + Boynton Sub Area.</p> | <p>RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
ABSENT: White Jr.</p> |
| <p>C. Public Communication
212541
(ID:27462)</p> | <p>Comar Real Estate Trust proposing a zoning map amendment to re-zone their properties at 299 Broadway and 15 Temple Street from MR5, MR3 and NR Districts to MR6, MR4 and NR Districts.</p> | <p>RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne</p> |

20. LAND USE COMMITTEE

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| <p>A. Committee Report
212725
(ID:27659)</p> | <p>Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on December 6, 2021.</p> | <p>Councilors Ewen-Campen and Davis presented the Committee Report. Amendments pertaining to rooftop mechanicals were recommended for approval, as was an amendment pertaining to parking maximums. Councilor Scott, speaking on the report, said that he was not convinced about the formula used to calculate parking maximums. OSPCD Executive Director George Proakis explained the reasoning for selecting the formula used. Items #212308 and #212471 were enrolled and ordained. Councilor Ewen-Campen moved to sever item #212337 from the committee report. Item #212337 was enrolled and ordained.
RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
| <p>B. Order
211349
(ID:24241)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Committee on Land Use consider regulating the height of rooftop mechanicals on commercial buildings that abut Neighborhood Residence and Urban Residence districts.</p> | <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> |

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| C. Mayor's Request
211612
(ID:24485) | Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to regulate rooftop mechanical systems and mechanical penthouses. | RESULT: PLACED ON FILE |
| D. Mayor's Request
212308
(ID:26181) | Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for Rooftop Mechanicals. | RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne |
| E. Public Communication
212337
(ID:27284) | 18 registered voters requesting the adoption of a Zoning Map amendment to change the zoning district of 51 McGrath Highway (MBL 115-B-1 and 115-B-4) from HR to MR5 and 35 McGrath Highway (MBL 115-B-5, 115-B-11, and 115-B-12) from MR5 to MR4. | RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [10 TO 0]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
RECUSED: Ewen-Campen |
| F. Ordinance
212471
(ID:27402) | By City Councilor Scott, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang That the Zoning Ordinances be amended by striking all language from section 8.3.1.10.c to prevent parking maximums in Master Planned Development areas being exceeded by Special Permit. | RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [10 TO 1]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezio, White Jr., McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
NAYS: Scott |

21. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

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| A. Committee Report
212726
(ID:27658) | Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on December 2, 2021. | Councilor Davis presented the Committee Report and noted that the Police and Fire reserve lists have not yet been exhausted. Councilor Scott asked for the names of the individuals still on the reserve lists.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| B. Officer's Communication
211417
(ID:24290) | City Solicitor responding to #211232 with an amendment to Ordinances 10-1 and 10-1.1, to eliminate specified levels of patrol and superior officers in the Police Department. | RESULT: PLACED ON FILE |

- C. Order 212544 (ID:27482) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Davis, Strezio, Ballantyne That the City Solicitor draft a Home Rule Petition to exempt Somerville from MGL 135 Sec 8, and thus allow the City of Somerville to donate unclaimed bicycles to local non-profit organizations, rather than selling them at auction.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- D. Order 212572 (ID:27521) By City Councilor Davis, White Jr., McLaughlin That the City Solicitor work with this Council to amend the anti-nepotism ordinance to allow for more flexibility when the circumstances warrant.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

22. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 212727 (ID:27661) Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on December 8, 2021.

Councilor White presented the Committee Report and summarized the actions taken by the committee.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. Grant of Location 212026 (ID:24932) Submitted by Verizon to install a Utility Pole 70S near the intersection of Houghton and Prospect Sts.

RESULT: NOT APPROVED

- C. License/Permit 212597 (ID:27537) New Garage License, Toucan Auto Repair Inc, 224 Somerville Avenue, 15 vehicles inside, 4 vehicles outside, for autobody work, spray painting, and charging money to store vehicles.

RESULT: WITHDRAWN

- D. License/Permit 212598 (ID:27538) New Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Auto Plus LLC, 229 Lowell St, 2 inside, 2 outside.

RESULT: APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

CONDITION: Restriction against placing signage on vehicles parked outside.

23. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 212728 (ID:27655) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on November 29, 2021.

Councilor Davis presented the Committee Report.

RESULT: APPROVED

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| <p>B. Order
206427
(ID:19220)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch, Mbah
That the Superintendent of Inspectional Services report on whether or not an increased amount of construction can lead to more lead exposure, and what measures ISD uses to ensure contractors limit the release of lead into the soil or air.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>C. Resolution
206585
(ID:19382)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Administration share a more comprehensive set of goals related to air quality based on CAFEH study results, when or if available.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>D. Resolution
206856
(ID:19656)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch
That the Administration consider a public information effort to inform the community about code violations that impact public safety, such as improper lead paint removal.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>E. Order
207040
(ID:19821)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch, Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, and the Entire Board
That the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer, and related staff, discuss how each department receives and handles a 911 call, including the dispatch of State Police, E911, Fire Alarm, and Cataldo Ambulance, and including the handling of asthmatic-related emergencies.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>F. Communication
207042
(ID:19825)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Hirsch, Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, and the Entire Board
Expressing the intent to work towards helping improve systems involving emergency response, care and education related to asthma.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>G. Order
207449
(ID:20246)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Director of Traffic and Parking waive parking dumpster fees for property owners who are de-paving their driveways.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>H. Order
208261
(ID:21095)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Clingan, McLaughlin
That the Director of Health and Human Services highlight any funding for drug treatment during the budget process.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |

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| <p>I. Order
208360
(ID:21199)</p> | <p>By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.
That the Chief of Police, the Director of Health and Human Services, the Director of Parks and Recreation and other relevant groups appear before the Public Health and Public Safety Committee to discuss strategies to prevent youth violence and gun possession.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>J. Order
208362
(ID:21201)</p> | <p>By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ballantyne, Clingan
That the Director of Water and Sewer and the Director of Sustainability and the Environment create a water preservation program to encourage water preservation among residents and limit water bills.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>K. Order
208691
(ID:21566)</p> | <p>By City Councilor McLaughlin, Clingan, Ballantyne, Hirsch
That members of the recently established Safe Injection Site Task Force appear before this Council’s Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss their findings in a public forum.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>L. Order
208692
(ID:21567)</p> | <p>By City Councilor McLaughlin, Clingan, Ballantyne, Hirsch
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide the City Council with a copy of the Safe Injection Site Task Force recommendations.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>M. Resolution
208910
(ID:21727)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Davis
That the Administration report to this Council on implementation of the Vulnerable Road Users Ordinance including, without limitation, application to FW Russell Disposal.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>N. Order
208922
(ID:21745)</p> | <p>By City Councilor Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Niedergang
That the City Solicitor and Chief of Police report to this Council on how civil asset forfeiture funds have been received and spent over the past 5 years, and how they can be directed to the General Fund.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |
| <p>O. Officer’s
Communication
209097
(ID:21943)</p> | <p>Assistant City Solicitor responding to #208922 re: civil asset forfeiture funds.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p> | |

P. Order 209144 (ID:21968) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of SPCD consider installing ADA/bicycle accessible ramps at the opposite ends of Edward Leathers Park to enhance the Neighborways bike path.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

Q. Order 209539 (ID:22386) By City Councilor Niedergang, Ballantyne, Davis, Clingan That the City Solicitor inform this Council of the minimum condition that would allow the Supervisor of Inspectional Services or the Commissioner of Public Works to clear a sidewalk that is in violation of the snow shoveling ordinance, and charge or lien the property owner for the cost.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

R. Order 210170 (ID:23025) By City Councilor Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr. That the Director of Communications and the Director of Economic Development publicize that one of the best ways to support small businesses offering take-out service is to call them directly to place an order, and pick it up instead of using third party delivery services, to help save them unwanted costs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

S. Resolution 210239 (ID:23138) By City Councilor Clingan, McLaughlin, Davis, Niedergang, Scott That the Mayor work with the Director of the Somerville Housing Authority to abolish the Housing Authority Police Department and reallocate the funds for social services for Housing Authority residents.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

T. Resolution 210240 (ID:23139) By City Councilor Clingan, McLaughlin, Ballantyne, Scott, Strezo, Davis That the Director of the Somerville Housing Authority (SHA) develop a formal process for SHA residents to report SHA Police misconduct, in lieu of an outright abolition.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

U. Order 210241 (ID:23148) By City Councilor Clingan, Rossetti, Mbah, Ballantyne, Strezo That the Chief of Police expand the Community Outreach, Help and Recovery program.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

V.	Order 210246 (ID:23132)	By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Scott, Strezo, Mbah, Ballantyne, Niedergang, Rossetti That the Director of Health and Human Services work with City Council to create and fund an unarmed agency that responds to mental health emergencies, addiction and substance-abuse emergencies, and other non-violent crises.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
W.	Resolution 210428 (ID:23299)	By City Councilor Ballantyne, McLaughlin, Davis, Scott That the Administration advise this Council as soon as possible, what oversight it will implement with Tufts University, following Tufts' decision to invite all undergraduate students back to campus for the fall 2020 semester.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
X.	Public Communication 210432 (ID:23324)	19 residents requesting a Public Hearing on Tufts University's plans to re-open its campus in the fall.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
Y.	Order 210687 (ID:23552)	By City Councilor Davis, Strezo, Ballantyne, Scott That the Director of Health and Human Services advise this Council what services are available to our neighbors experiencing homelessness, mental illness, and addiction, and where additional funding could improve those services or enable new services.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
Z.	Resolution 210741 (ID:23623)	By City Councilor Mbah, Ballantyne, Clingan, Niedergang, Ewen-Campen That the Administration appear before this Council to give a report on the Public School building reopening plans.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED AMENDED: Insert "Public School" to specify which building re-opening plans are requested.
AA.	Resolution 210743 (ID:23625)	By City Councilor Scott, Ewen-Campen, Davis, Mbah Proposing a process to create the Somerville Community Safety Coalition.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED
AB.	Officer's Communication 210874 (ID:23682)	Director of Health and Human Services responding to #210687 re: current and potential services available to neighbors experiencing homelessness, mental illness, and addiction.	RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AC. Order 211175 (ID:24068) By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Chiefs of Police and Fire discuss with this Council, by the end of February 2021, the staffing requirements for their respective departments, as there are suggestions that staff counts should be changed.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AD. Resolution 211320 (ID:24222) By City Councilor Ballantyne, Davis, Strezo, Mbah, Rossetti
That the Administration, with the Director of Health and Human Services, share a re-opening plan for schools and businesses which defines goals, risks and contingencies.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AE. Order 211325 (ID:24219) By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ballantyne, Davis
That the Director of Health and Human Services prioritize homelessness outreach workers for upcoming COVID-19 grant funding to better address the increased demand for homeless services.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AF. Order 211326 (ID:24220) By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ballantyne, Davis
That the Director of Health and Human Services develop a plan for a warming center or engagement center to address increased homelessness in the community due to COVID-19.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AG. Order 211353 (ID:24257) By City Councilor Mbah
That the Director of Health and Human Services create a vaccination site, once more vaccines become available, given the number of vulnerable populations.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AH. Order 211371 (ID:24278) By City Councilor Ballantyne
That the Director of Health and Human Services use the attached tool to help small businesses and schools adapt to the evolving science around Covid-19 by sharing current data, identifying risks, and defining contingencies.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AI. Order 211428 (ID:24327) By City Councilor McLaughlin, Clingan
That the Chief of Police appear before this Council's Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss the policy on drug possession arrests for the past 5 years.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AJ. Order 211599 (ID:24500) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin, Ballantyne, Scott, Mbah That the Chief of Police update this Council on Somerville's Restorative Justice program, including a description of what sorts of cases are referred for restorative justice and how those decisions are made.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AK. Order 211708 (ID:24612) By City Councilor Davis, Strezo That the Director of Health and Human Services update the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, in writing and in person, on what steps have been taken and are planned to provide services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness, mental illness, and addiction.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AL. Order 211715 (ID:24626) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Directors of SPCD and Health and Human Services discuss options for the Somerville Homeless Coalition and other community based organizations who need public spaces for engagement centers to meet unsheltered people in a safe and private environment.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AM. Order 211716 (ID:24627) By City Councilor Ballantyne, Strezo, Scott That the Directors of Health and Human Services and Infrastructure and Asset Management advise this Council whether gender neutral bathrooms are available in all public K-8 schools, as requested by middle schoolers.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AN. Resolution 211801 (ID:24706) By City Councilor Davis That the Mayor and the Director of Health and Human Services update the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety on the Covid-19 public health emergency and the city's response (following on #209798).

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AO. Order 211929 (ID:24862) By City Councilor Clingan, Strezo That the Chief of Police request an update from the Housing Authority on the 2020-discussed reforms such as marked vehicles, uniformed officers, body cameras, and updated policies and procedures for officer accountability and discipline.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

AP. Officer's Communication 212035 (ID:24917) Director of Health and Humans Services responding to #208261 re: funding for drug treatment.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

<p>AQ. Officer's Communication 212190 (ID:25022)</p>	<p>Acting Chief of Police responding to #211929 re: Housing Authority Police reforms.</p>
<p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>	
<p>AR. Order 212235 (ID:26208)</p>	<p>By City Councilor McLaughlin, Davis, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Niedergang, Mbah That the Director of Health and Human Services identify a location for a harm reduction site to provide alternative methods of addressing substance abuse while plans for a safe consumption site are prepared.</p>
<p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>	
<p>AS. Resolution 212241 (ID:26204)</p>	<p>By City Councilor Mbah, Scott, Ewen-Campen Requesting the establishment of a restitution program for current and former residents who have been harmed by the war on drugs.</p>
<p>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</p>	
<p>AT. Order 212303 (ID:26233)</p>	<p>By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Health and Human Services provide metric-based transparent information for small businesses and schools as we learn to live with COVID and follow emerging science.</p>
<p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>	
<p>AU. Order 212304 (ID:26234)</p>	<p>By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss with this Council, what COVID/Delta variant safety measures and mandates are being proposed, including mandating vaccinations.</p>
<p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>	
<p>AV. Order 212618 (ID:27499)</p>	<p>By City Councilor Strezo That the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on the staffing of the Environmental Health Coordinator position to help combat rat infestations throughout the city.</p>
<p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>	

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 24. Mayor's Request 212729 (ID:27666)

Requesting approval of the City reprecincting based on the 2020 Federal Census results, after split precinct mitigation.

Intergovernmental Affairs Director Lauren Racaniello and City Planner Charlotte Leis said that the maps were sent to the state for approval. The maps were approved, however because of House redistricting, several precincts were split. Working with the Secretary of State’s Office, a revised map was created to mitigate splitting precincts to the extent possible.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
- 25. Mayor's Request 212730 (ID:27688)

Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition to authorize the continued employment of Acting Somerville Police Chief Charles Femino.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee
- 26. Mayor's Request 212731 (ID:27663)

Requesting the reduction of the FY22 Veterans Enterprise Budget by \$277,972 to balance the budget.

Councilor Scott stated that the Administration requested approval of this item tonight, but he has had questions on this for several years and he asked that the item be referred to the Finance Committee. Finance Director Ed Bean said that this reduction is needed to set the city’s tax rate. Councilor Scott believes that an appropriation could be made to have a balanced budget, however Mr. Bean said that would increase the tax levy and require a special meeting, all of which would delay the mailing out of tax bills. Councilor Ewen-Campen supports approving the item tonight. Councilor Davis also had questions about the city’s involvement with the rink, specifically that the city would not be renewing management of the large rink, yet money was put into the rink’s enterprise budget. Councilor Ewen-Campen moved for approval of the item. Councilor Davis agrees, since it appears that the money was budgeted prior to the city opting to not renew the management contract.

RESULT: APPROVED
- 27. Mayor's Request 212732 (ID:27634)

Requesting approval to appropriate \$591,442 from the Medical Marijuana Stabilization Fund for implementing related priorities.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

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| 28. Mayor's Request 212733 (ID:27681) | Requesting the appropriation of \$150,000 from the Salary & Wage Stabilization Fund to the Police Department - Personal Services - Other Lump Sum Benefits Account in order to settle pending litigation. |
| <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
 FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee</p> | |
| 29. Mayor's Request 212734 (ID:27684) | Requesting the appropriation of \$220,016 from the Salary Contingency Account to the Police Department Personal Services Accounts to fund a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Somerville and the Somerville Police Superior Officers Association. |
| <p>President McLaughlin was recused from this item and Councilor Rossetti assumed the Chair. Councilor Scott explained the request and moved for approval.
 RESULT: APPROVED</p> | |
| 30. Mayor's Request 212735 (ID:27682) | Requesting the appropriation of \$66,666.67 from the Unreserved Fund Balance Account ("Free Cash") to the Law Department's Judgments & Settlements Account in order to fund attorneys fees in pending litigation. |
| <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
 FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee</p> | |
| 31. Mayor's Request 212736 (ID:27637) | Requesting approval to appropriate \$7,700 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Information Technology, Internet Maintenance Account for Internet Pipe Denial of Service Mitigation Services. |
| <p>Councilor Scott moved for approval.</p> | |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> | |
| 32. Mayor's Request 212737 (ID:27690) | Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$2,923.38 grant with no new match required, from Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) to the Fire Department for overtime reimbursement for Structural Collapse training. |
| <p>Councilor Scott moved for approval.</p> | |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> | |
| 33. Mayor's Request 212738 (ID:27606) | Requesting approval of a time-only extension for PMA LLC for OPM services for the Somerville High School construction project through 12/31/2023. |
| <p>Councilor Scott moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
 RESULT: APPROVED</p> | |

34. Mayor's Request 212739 (ID:27607) Requesting approval of a time-only extension for Symmes Maini and McKee Associates (SMMA) for designer services during construction for the Somerville High School project through 12/31/2023.

Councilor Scott moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED

35. Mayor's Request 212740 (ID:27608) Requesting approval of a time-only extension for Suffolk Construction Company Inc. for construction management services for the Somerville High School project through 12/31/2023.

Councilor Scott moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED

36. Mayor's Communication 212741 (ID:27689) Conveying a memo from the Democracy Collaborative regarding the Accelerating Reinvestment in our Community (ARC) Project.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

37. Mayor's Communication 212742 (ID:27643) Submitting the updated 2021 Surveillance Technology Annual Report.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

38. Officer's Communication 212743 (ID:27665) Assistant City Solicitor responding to Item #212567 regarding overhead wires.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

NEW BUSINESS

39. Public Communication 212744 (ID:27683) Broadway Somerville Apartments, LLC requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 383 Broadway from UR to MR5.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

40. License/Permit 212745 (ID:27697) Public Event License, Dancing in the Dark, Munroe St from Prospect Hill Ave to Greenville St, December 21, 3:30PM-6:30PM.

Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED

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| 41. License/Permit
212746
(ID:27698) | Public Event License, Mid Winter Chili Cookoff, Bond St from Broadway to Heath St, Jan 22, 10AM-4PM (raindate Jan 29). | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 42. License/Permit
212747
(ID:27699) | Public Event License, Recognizing COVID-19 deaths, Symphony Park, Dec 11, 11AM-3PM (raindate Dec 18). | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 43. License/Permit
212748
(ID:27696) | New Drainlayer's License, Mendez Masonry & Construction Inc. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 44. License/Permit
212749
(ID:27667) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, James Kiley Co, 15 Linwood St. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 45. License/Permit
212750
(ID:27668) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, 28 Motorsports, 486R Columbia St. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 46. License/Permit
212751
(ID:27669) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Union Gulf Service, 231 Washington St. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 47. License/Permit
212752
(ID:27671) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Tech Auto Body, 9 Union Sq. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 48. License/Permit
212753
(ID:27672) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, DM Auto Body, 48 Joy St. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 49. License/Permit
212754
(ID:27673) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Broadway Brake, 45 Broadway. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |

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| 50. License/Permit
212755
(ID:27674) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Hillside Service Center, 45 Mystic Ave. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 51. License/Permit
212756
(ID:27675) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 3, Joseph Talewsky and Son, 512 Columbia St. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 52. License/Permit
212757
(ID:27677) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 1, Smart Center Boston, 257 McGrath Hwy. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 53. License/Permit
212758
(ID:27692) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Broadway Auto Sales, 525 Broadway. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 54. License/Permit
212759
(ID:27693) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Teele Sq Auto, 1284 Broadway. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 55. License/Permit
212760
(ID:27694) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Broadway Sunoco, 258 Broadway. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 56. License/Permit
212761
(ID:27670) | Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 1, Herb Chambers Mercedes Benz of Boston Commercial Vans, 161 Linwood St. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 57. License/Permit
212762
(ID:27691) | Renewing Automatic Amusement Devices License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Dr. | Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
RESULT: APPROVED |

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

58. Resolution 212763 (ID:27717) By City Councilor Strezo, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr. In support of workers of Diesel Cafe, Bloc Cafe, and Forge Baking Company (as DBF United) and their goal to unionize.

Councilor Strezo spoke about the Resolution and sponsored Mitchell Fallon to speak. Mr. Fallon addressed the Council and spoke about the efforts to unionize the 3 businesses named in the resolution.

RESULT: APPROVED

59. Mayor's Request 212764 (ID:27649) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,491,908.58 from the CPA Fund Community Housing Reserve to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee.

Councilor Scott stated that the administration intended for this item to be discussed in the next calendar year. Intergovernmental Affairs Director Lauren Racaniello explained that there will be another item submitted that should run with this item next year.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

60. Mayor's Request 212765 (ID:27718) Requesting approval to appropriate \$100,000 for Workforce Development Services and \$70,000 for Small Business Technical Assistance Services from the Union Square Community Benefits Stabilization fund.

Councilor Ewen-Campen spoke on the item and Councilor Scott moved for approval.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Mbah, Rossetti, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
ABSENT: White Jr.

61. Mayor's Request 212766 (ID:27720) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$28,448.53 using available funds in the DPW Department from various Admin, Fleet, Buildings, Sanitation, and Highway accounts.

RESULT: APPROVED

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| 62. Mayor's Request
212767
(ID:27685) | Requesting approval for the Communications Department to pay prior year invoices for FY2021 including two invoices totaling \$440.00 to Catholic Charities: Community Interpreters for language interpretation services, and one invoice for \$82.50 to Interpersonal Frequency for website development & maintenance and technical support, out of the Communications Professional and Technical Services Account. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 63. Mayor's Request
212768
(ID:27716) | Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$157.10 using available funds in the Constituent Services Printing and Stationary Account to Kyocera for one month of printing services for the department. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 64. Mayor's Request
212769
(ID:27686) | Requesting approval for SomerViva: Office of Immigrant Affairs to pay a prior year invoice for FY2021 totaling \$134.58 to Catholic Charities: Community Interpreters for language interpretation services using available funds in the SOIA Professional and Technical Services Account. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 65. Officer's Communication
212770
(ID:27722) | Planning Board conveying its recommendations for a proposed amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance (item #212471). |
| RESULT: PLACED ON FILE | |
| 66. License/Permit
212771
(ID:27724) | Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Valente Enterprise, 154 Glen St.
Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 67. License/Permit
212772
(ID:27725) | Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, William Doucette Auto Sales, 325 Alewife Brook Pkwy.
Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 68. License/Permit
212773
(ID:27719) | Sign and Awning Permit, Pilatesrx LLC, 315 Broadway, for 2 blades signs and 1 flat sign.
Councilor White moved to waive the reading and approve the item. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 69. Public Communication
212774
(ID:27721) | Kate Wheeler and David Guss submitting comments re: trees around the Public Safety Building. |
| RESULT: PLACED ON FILE | |

70. Public Trustees and petitioners of 80 Webster Condominium Association submitting
Communication comments re: Item # 212309, amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for MPD +
212775 Boynton Sub Area.
(ID:27723)

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

LATE ITEMS

71. Order By City Councilor Davis
212776 That the administration provide a complete accounting of all finances related to
(ID:27726) Veterans Rink and Founders Rink, a detailed explanation of the contract
history and status of both rinks, and an explanation of why Council approval
was not sought for the apparent new contract for management of Founders
rink.

RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 12:12 AM.