

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

January 27, 2022, 7:00 PM
Meeting by Remote Participation

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, 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/273997618619237132>.

OPENING CEREMONIES

- 1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # 27956)

- 2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # 27957)

- 3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
(ID # 27958) December 9, 2021 and the Organizational Meeting,
 January 3, 2022.

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 4. Grant of Submitted by Verizon to install 110 feet of conduit from
Location the intersection of Warren Avenue and Bow Street to the
(ID # 27898) intersection of Bow Street and Somerville Avenue.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 5. Ordinance By City Councilor Strezo
(ID # 27908) Amendment to Ordinance 2-221, regarding adult use
 marijuana licenses, as described within.

- 6. Order By City Councilor Strezo, GomezMouakad
(ID # 27886) That the Director of Economic Development discuss the
 city's maintenance plan for tenants and occupants of the
 Arts at the Armory.

7. Order (ID # 27911) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Housing, the Director of the Office of Housing Stability, and the Director of Planning and Zoning discuss the challenges associated with and potential modifications to the Tier 3 Rental ADUs multiplier at 110% AMI for inclusionary units.
8. Order (ID # 27912) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Chief Assessor provide a list of all non-profits with Community Benefit Agreements and/or Payment in Lieu of Taxes agreements.
9. Order (ID # 27913) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Public Works and the Director of the Office Sustainability and Environment discuss the possibility of installing Cigarette Bin Voting Boxes throughout the community.
10. Order (ID # 27914) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development work with the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to consider combining the affordable housing linkage payments for commercial development as a funding source for a development that will result in the creation of affordable units.
11. Order (ID # 27915) By City Councilor Strezo, McLaughlin
That the Director of the Office of Housing Stability discuss proactive measures to inform tenants in inclusionary housing units of the rights and resources available to them.
12. Order (ID # 27916) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Parks and Recreation report to this Council on the status of the Veterans Memorial skating rink following its recent privatization.
13. Resolution (ID # 27909) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Administration create a plan for accessibility of virtual public meetings during the 2022 COVID pandemic surge to address how those without internet access may participate.
14. Resolution (ID # 27910) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Executive Director of Somerville Community Corporation discuss the status of the 100 Homes Program.

15. Order (ID # 27917) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Housing provide a comprehensive list of bedroom counts for construction projects permitted over the past three years and continue to track this data.
16. Order (ID # 27918) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Kelly
That this Council discuss pursuing an approach to advocate for shared policy and budgetary priorities to be included in the next police contract.
17. Order (ID # 27919) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin
That the Director of Housing provide a written update on the current status of compliance with the Short-Term Rental Ordinance.
18. Order (ID # 27920) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, GomezMouakad
That the Director of Mobility provide regular updates on the work towards a comprehensive bicycle, pedestrian, and MBTA plan.
19. Order (ID # 27921) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, GomezMouakad
That the Director of Parking provide regular updates on the status of the Parking Utilization Study.
20. Order (ID # 27922) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Land Use Committee review the process of amending zoning ordinances, for the benefit of new Councilors and the public.
21. Order (ID # 27923) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Commissioner of Public Works discuss the possibility of removing snow and ice from playgrounds after snowstorms.
22. Order (ID # 27924) By City Councilor GomezMouakad
That the Chief Fire Engineer report on the safety risks for all municipal buildings not fully equipped with automatic sprinkler systems.
23. Order (ID # 27925) By City Councilor GomezMouakad
That the Commissioner of Public Works report on all school building deferred maintenance projects completed following the ventilation system assessment, proposed completion dates, and strategies to assess needs for future deferred maintenance projects.

24. Order (ID # 27926) By City Councilor GomezMouakad, Strezo
That the Director of Economic Development report on the maintenance plan for the Armory building, completion of outstanding repairs, and ongoing maintenance and operational oversight of the building.
25. Order (ID # 27927) By City Councilor GomezMouakad, Strezo
That the Director of Economic Development report on the status of existing leases for the Armory building.
26. Order (ID # 27928) By City Councilor GomezMouakad, Strezo
That the Director of Inspectional Services and the Chief Fire Engineer report on all life safety inspections and testing of life safety systems completed for the Armory building in the past five years, and compliance with testing and inspections following eminent domain actions.
27. Order (ID # 27929) By City Councilor GomezMouakad
That the Administration provide a report for all departments using city vehicles for non-emergency services, detailing the measures taken to ensure that staff follow traffic regulations, including the hands free while driving law, and maintain maximum traffic safety while driving.
28. Order (ID # 27930) By City Councilor GomezMouakad
That the Director of Communications report on measures that could be taken to provide more equitable and consistent access to online public meetings.
29. Order (ID # 27933) By City Councilor Clingan, PinedaNeufeld
That the Director of Human Resources provide an update on the status of hiring a permanent Chief Fire Engineer.
30. Order (ID # 27934) By City Councilor Clingan, McLaughlin
That the Chief Fire Engineer provide this Council with the plan for staffing the future Assembly Square fire station.
31. Order (ID # 27935) By City Councilor Clingan, Ewen-Campen, Wilson
That the Director of Health and Human Services request an update from Cambridge Health Alliance on the delayed opening of an adolescent treatment unit.
32. Communication (ID # 27932) By City Councilor Clingan
Updating this Council on the progress of the Somerville Police Chief Search Committee.

33. Order (ID # 27936) By City Councilor Wilson
That the Director of Mobility update this Council on efforts to reduce cut-through vehicle traffic on neighborhood residential streets.
34. Order (ID # 27937) By City Councilor Wilson
That the Director of Parking update this Council on the suitability of existing parking for seniors and explore additional options for selected street parking in central business districts.
35. Order (ID # 27938) By City Councilor Wilson, Burnley Jr., Kelly, Pineda Neufeld
That the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on previous efforts to verify and certify employee vaccination status in Somerville businesses.
36. Order (ID # 27939) By City Councilor Kelly
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide an update on acquiring and distributing 200,000 KF94 or KN95 masks to residents.
37. Order (ID # 27940) By City Councilor Kelly
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide a plan for all residents to receive at-home COVID tests and increase the number of appointments for PCR tests.
38. Order (ID # 27941) By City Councilor Kelly
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide an update on contact tracing efforts.
39. Order (ID # 27942) By City Councilor Kelly
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide an update on how to report positive results of at-home COVID-19 tests.
40. Order (ID # 27943) By City Councilor Kelly
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide an update on the possibility of using Community Development Block Grant funding to combat the rodent infestation in East Somerville.
41. Order (ID # 27944) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Mobility utilize traffic calming measures on the corner of Otis and Pearl Streets to address speeding and traffic issues that contributed to a crossing guard being hit by a car.

42. Order (ID # 27945) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the City Solicitor update this Council on the previous request to seize by eminent domain, Patsy's Pastries at 182 Broadway and the East End Grill at 118 Broadway.
43. Order (ID # 27946) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld
That the Director of Mobility install traffic calming in the crosswalk in front of 1370 Broadway.
44. Order (ID # 27947) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld
That the Director of Public Works return the push to walk signal to an automatic signal at the corner of Broadway and Packard Avenue.
45. Order (ID # 27948) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld
That the Director of Human Resources discuss the hiring and appointment processes.
46. Order (ID # 27949) By City Councilor PinedaNeufeld
That the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters discuss and revise the process for reviewing appointments and re-appointments.
47. Order (ID # 27952) By City Councilor BurnleyJr., Kelly
That the Director of Inspectional Services, the Director of Engineering and the Director of Economic Development incorporate the recommendations of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities into the final 2022 Outdoor Dining Plan and ensure enforcement of all regulations.
48. Order (ID # 27953) By City Councilor BurnleyJr.
That the Director of Economic Development and the Director of Procurement and Contracting Services work with community partners to assess, report, and provide recommendations for improving the city's procurement rates in order to support local businesses.
49. Order (ID # 27954) By City Councilor BurnleyJr., Kelly, Clingan, McLaughlin
That the Director of Health and Human Services provide this Council with an update regarding progress and plans to establish a Supervised Consumption Site in Somerville.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

50. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27897) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on January 25, 2022.

- B. Mayor's Request 212872 Requesting acceptance of a Preservation Restriction for 1 Westwood Road.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- C. Mayor's Request 212873 Requesting the acceptance of a Preservation Restriction at 404 Broadway.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- D. Mayor's Request 212874 Requesting rescission of \$355,000 portion of appropriation authorized as part of MWRA Lead Replacement Program, and making an appropriation and authorization of \$355,000 bond issuance for Lead Replacement Program.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- E. Mayor's Request 212875 Requesting the appropriation of \$1,491,908.58 from the CPA Fund Community Housing Reserve to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- F. Mayor's Request 212876 Requesting the appropriation of \$494,110.50 from the CPA Fund to the Somerville Hispanic Association for Community Development for improvements to the Grace Baptist Church building.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- G. Mayor's Request 212877 Requesting to appropriate CPA funds totaling \$416,694.15 from the CPA Undesignated Fund Balance to designated CPA Reserve Accounts.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- H. Mayor's Request 212878 Requesting the appropriation of \$250,000 from the CPA Fund Open Space/Recreation Reserve to the CPA Open Space Land Acquisition Project Fund.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- I. Mayor's Request 212879 Requesting the appropriation of \$210,200 from the CPA Fund Open Space/Recreation Reserve to the City of Somerville Public Space and Urban Forestry Division for expansion of Glen Park Community Garden.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- J. Mayor's Request 212880 Requesting the appropriation of \$157,352 from the CPA Fund Historic Preservation Reserve to the Somerville Museum for collections preservation.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- K. Mayor's Request 212881 Requesting the appropriation of \$100,000 from the CPA Fund Open Space/Recreation Reserve to the City of Somerville Public Space and Urban Forestry Division for design of Junction Park.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- L. Mayor's Request 212882 Requesting the appropriation of \$30,000 from the CPA Fund Historic Preservation reserve to the Elizabeth Peabody House for architectural and design services.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- M. Mayor's Request 212885 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.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- N. Mayor's Request 212886 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.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- O. Mayor's Request 212887 Requesting the appropriation of \$4,331 from the Salary Contingency to Police Department, Personal Services, Crossing Guards Account to fund a Memorandum of Agreement Between the City and SEIU/Local 888, Crossing Guard Unit
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- P. Mayor's Request 212892 Requesting the appropriation of \$100,000 from the Encore Artist and Cultural Support Stabilization Fund to support local cultural council grants.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- Q. Mayor's Request 212893 Requesting approval of a transfer of \$24,000 in the OSPCD Mobility Division, from the OSPCD Mobility Personal Services Account to the OSPCD Mobility Ordinary Maintenance Account, to pay for unbudgeted outstanding police details for the Farmers Market and traffic details.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- R. Mayor's Request 212894 Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$83,616 grant with no new match required, from MA Office of Public Safety & Security to the Fire department for fire staffing costs.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- S. Officer's Communication 212905 City Solicitor seeking approval to settle a claim regarding damages to 1112-1114 Broadway.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- T. Mayor's Request 212936 Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$14,000 grant with no new match required, from the Mass Cultural Council to the Arts Council for general operational support.

RECOMMENDED: Approved.

51. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27893) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on January 19, 2022.

52. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27895) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on January 20, 2022.
- B. Order 212805 By City Councilor Davis That the Administration re-submit its two versions of a Home Rule Petition to establish the right to charge electric vehicles.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- C. Order 212817 By City Councilor Davis That the City Solicitor re-submit the request for approval of an amendment to the Community Benefits Ordinance to create a Community Benefits Committee for the distribution of community benefits funds.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- D. Order 212821 By City Councilor Davis That the Administration re-submit the 2021 Surveillance Technology Annual Report.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- E. Order (ID # 27901) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen That the Administration post the Surveillance Technology Annual Report and the approved Surveillance Technology Impact Reports online in an easy to find location.

53. OPEN SPACE, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27894) Report of the Committee on Open Space, Environment and Energy, meeting on January 19, 2022.
- B. Mayor's Request 212903 Requesting the adoption of the 2021 update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

54. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 27896) Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on January 24, 2022.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 55. Mayor's Request (ID # 27892) Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition to authorize the continued employment of Acting Somerville Police Chief Charles Femino.
- 56. Mayor's Request (ID # 27906) Requesting approval of an amendment to Ordinance 1-11 to establish the enforcing personnel for violations of the tree ordinance.
- 57. Withdrawn (ID # 27800) Withdrawn.
- 58. Mayor's Request (ID # 27881) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$74,400 grant with no new match required, from the MA Office of Public Safety for Police Department staffing.
- 59. Mayor's Request (ID # 27887) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$34,896.32 grant with no new match required, from the MA Executive Office of Public Safety & Security to the Fire Department for the purchase of portable radios.
- 60. Withdrawn (ID # 27889) Withdrawn.
- 61. Mayor's Request (ID # 27888) Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Stephanie Galaitsi to the Women's Commission.
- 62. Mayor's Communication (ID # 27931) Re-submitting the updated 2021 Surveillance Technology Annual Report.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 63. Officer's Communication (ID # 27884) City Clerk requesting confirmation of the appointment of Bernabe Rodriguez to the position of Assistant City Clerk.
- 64. Officer's Communication (ID # 27907) City Clerk requesting confirmation of the appointment of Stephanie Widzowski to the position of Assistant Clerk of Committees.
- 65. Officer's Communication (ID # 27905) City Clerk requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Peter Forcellese, Sr. to the position of Legislative Clerk.

66. Officer's Communication (ID # 27904) City Clerk requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Rose Durham to the position of Clerk of Committees.

NEW BUSINESS

67. Public Communication (ID # 27902) Vivaldo Meneses Sr. requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 86 Prospect Street from UR to MR5.
68. Public Communication (ID # 27903) Michael E. Olson requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 125 Lowell Street from NR to UR.
69. License/Permit (ID # 27955) Public Event License, Dancing in the Street BP, Munroe Street from Prospect Hill Ave and Greenville St and Prospect Hill Park, Feb 14, 3pm-7:15pm.
70. License/Permit (ID # 27900) Renewing Drainlayer's License, KB Aruda Construction.
71. License/Permit (ID # 27960) New Sign/Awning Permit, Cambria Hotel, 515 Somerville Avenue, for 2 signs with channel letters of the hotel's name and address.
72. License/Permit (ID # 27961) New Sign/Awning Permit, Juicygreens, 275 Foley Street, for 1 wall sign, 1 blade sign, and 2 awnings.
73. License/Permit (ID # 27899) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 1, Mercedes Benz of Boston, 259 McGrath Hwy.
74. License/Permit (ID # 27959) New Garage License, Toucan Auto Center Inc, 619 Somerville Avenue, 39 vehicles inside, 1 vehicles outside for auto body work, spray painting, and charging money to store vehicles.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

75. Mayor's Request (ID # 27963) Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Brian Postlewaite to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.
76. Mayor's Communication (ID # 27965) Conveying a request for City Council input on priorities for the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.
77. Officer's Communication (ID # 27950) Conveying language for the rescission of the adoption of G. L. Chapter 48, Sections 59B, 59C and 59D relative to a Reserve Fire Force.

- 78. Officer's Communication (ID # 27951) Conveying language for the rescission of the adoption of G. L. Chapter 147, Sections 11, 12 and 13 relative to a Reserve Police Force.

- 79. License/Permit (ID # 27967) Public Event License, Honest Scholar Productions LLC, The Holdovers, Summer St from Belmont St and Lowell St and sidewalk closure in front of Somerville Theatre, Feb 8, 8am-4pm.

- 80. License/Permit (ID # 27966) Sign/Awning License, Le Macaron French Pastries, 411 Artisan Way, 1 blade sign.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT