

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

August 26, 2021, 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://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5436668701411842315>.

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # 26221)

2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # 26222)

3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meetings of June
(ID # 26223) 24, 2021 and July 8, 2021.

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. Grant of Submitted by Eversource to install 99 feet of conduit in
Location Summer Street, from Utility Pole 325/28 to a point of
(ID # 26164) pickup at 162 Summer Street.

5. Grant of Submitted by Eversource to install 116 feet of conduit in
Location Inner Belt Road, from Manhole 26995 to a point of
(ID # 26168) pickup at Inner Belt Road and Third Avenue.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

6. Order By City Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # 26193) That this Council adopt a code of conduct and anti-
 harassment policy.

7. Order By City Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # 26194) That the City Clerk's Office discontinue providing
 badges to Councilors, and that Councilors refrain from
 using badges to enforce laws.

8. Order (ID # 26230) By City Councilor McLaughlin
In his capacity as President, recommending the appointment of Joan Liu to the Traffic Board.
9. Order (ID # 26208) By City Councilor McLaughlin, Clingan
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.
10. Order (ID # 26209) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management update this Council on efforts to prevent flooding under the Washington Street bridge.
11. Order (ID # 26210) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Inspectional Services and the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on rodent control enforcement and vacant positions within the rodent task force.
12. Communication (ID # 26190) By City Councilor Rossetti
In her capacity as President, following the recusal of President McLaughlin, announcing the appointment of Councilor Jesse Clingan to serve on the Police Chief Selection Committee.
13. Communication (ID # 26191) By City Councilor Rossetti
In her capacity as President, following the recusal of President McLaughlin, announcing the appointment of Councilor Lance Davis to serve on the Public Safety Building Committee.
14. Communication (ID # 26192) By City Councilor Rossetti
Report of the High School Building Committee meetings of July and August.
15. Resolution (ID # 26204) 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.
16. Resolution (ID # 26171) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Strezo, and the Mayor
Supporting H.1434/S.891 - An Act to Prevent COVID-19 Evictions and Foreclosures and Promote an Equitable Housing Recovery.

17. Resolution (ID # 26200) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Niedergang
That the Administration purchase 57 Central Street (aka “Central Street Studios”) and continue to maintain the existing building as artists’ studios and/or affordable artist live/work spaces.
18. Resolution (ID # 26199) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Administration work with this Council to begin a public process to consider removing the phrase “Honorably Purchased from the Pawtuckets – 1639” from the Somerville Seal and Flag.
19. Order (ID # 26201) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Engineering update this Council on what work has been done over the past two years to alleviate flooding on Richdale Avenue.
20. Order (ID # 26197) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Economic Development update this Council on the recent Request For Proposals to lease the Historic Union Square Fire Station to a private developer, and provide this Council with an independent assessment of the building and relocation efforts for the tenants.
21. Order (ID # 26195) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Economic Development update this Council on the updated Nexus study to increase Development Linkage Fees.
22. Order (ID # 26196) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Health and Human Services report to this Council the percentage per department of City employees who are vaccinated against COVID-19, and finalize plans to mandate such vaccinations.
23. Order (ID # 26198) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Housing report to this Council whether the stock of federally funded housing units is above or below the “Faircloth Limit” which caps the number of such units at 1999 levels.
24. Order (ID # 26202) By City Councilor Niedergang, Davis
That the Commissioner of Public Works, the Director of Purchasing, and the Director of Mobility report to the Legislative Matters Committee on enforcement of and annual reporting on the Ordinance to Safeguard Vulnerable Road Users.

25. Order (ID # 26203) By City Councilor Niedergang, Davis
That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Mobility report to this Council whether the video "Safer Trucking in Changing Cities" is being used to train City truck drivers in safe driving techniques.
26. Order (ID # 26215) By City Councilor Scott
That the Commissioner of Public Works install 5 MINUTE PICKUP/DROPOFF signs at 445 Somerville Avenue.
27. Order (ID # 26214) By City Councilor Scott
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the damaged street sign at Hanson Street and Properzi Way.
28. Order (ID # 26217) By City Councilor Scott
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the HAWK signal at Buckingham and Beacon Streets with a standard RYG stoplight signal.
29. Order (ID # 26213) By City Councilor Scott
That this Council consider an Automated Speed Enforcement in School Zones Home Rule Petition similar to the one already approved by Salem MA.
30. Order (ID # 26216) By City Councilor Scott
That the Director of Planning ensure that a motion is placed on the next agendas of the Planning Board and Urban Design Commission to approve the minutes of prior meetings and ensure that those minutes are posted promptly.
31. Order (ID # 26220) By City Councilor Scott
That the Director of the Arts Council provide an update regarding the leases at the Armory building and the plan for tenancy and uses moving forward.
32. Order (ID # 26219) By City Councilor Scott
That the Director of Engineering provide a timeline for the change of the signaling at Webster Avenue and Washington Street to a pedestrian exclusive interval.
33. Order (ID # 26218) By City Councilor Scott
That the Director of Mobility and the Director of Engineering discuss the upcoming MassDOT replacement of the Webster Street rail bridge and explain what public input process will be followed locally.

34. Order (ID # 26205) By City Councilor Strezo, Clingan
That the Director of Engineering update the Flood Forum Committee on the mitigation and steps to address flooding for the Gilman Square region, most specifically on Richdale Avenue, School Street and Medford Street.
35. Order (ID # 26206) By City Councilor Strezo, Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Parking implement traffic calming measures on Montrose Street, between School and Sycamore Streets, including but not limited to two CAUTION - CHILDREN PLAYING signs on opposite ends of the street.
36. Order (ID # 26207) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Director of the Council on Aging appear before this Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development to discuss an ongoing plan to bus seniors to city-wide events, including evenings and weekends.
37. Order (ID # 26212) By City Councilor Clingan
That the Director of Engineering work with the Administration to fund a wastewater management project in the next fiscal budget for Gilman Square, to address constant flooding.
38. Resolution (ID # 26211) By City Councilor Clingan
That the Director of the Somerville Housing Authority (SHA) provide this Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development with an organizational chart for the SHA, including the current SHA Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

39. Public Communication 211675 Scott Zink proposing a zoning amendment to re-zone his property at 471 Somerville Avenue from Urban Residential to MR4.
40. Public Communication 211988 Moshe Safdie proposing a zoning amendment to extend the Small Business Overlay to his property at 92 Properzi Way.
41. Public Communication 212047 Senthil Kumar proposing a zoning amendment to rezone his property at 8-8A Melvin Street from Mid Rise 5 to Neighborhood Residential.
42. Mayor's Request 212051 Requesting an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to revise the façade build-out dimensional standard for any Apartment Building in the Urban Residence district when abutting the Neighborhood Residence district.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

43. Mayor's Request (ID # 26177) Requesting approval of a 30-year lease for the new Assembly Square Fire Station.
44. Mayor's Request (ID # 26170) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,509,600 in a bond for the acquisition of 9-11 Allen St.
45. Mayor's Request (ID # 26175) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,331,543 in a bond for the construction of an outdoor elevator to improve accessibility between the High School Field Level and the new Green Line Extension Gilman Square Station.
46. Mayor's Request (ID # 26174) Requesting approval to re-purpose the Green Line Extension Stabilization Fund and appropriate \$7,668,457 from said fund for the construction of an elevator between the High School Field and the new Green Line Gilman Square Station.
47. Mayor's Request (ID # 26167) Requesting approval to appropriate \$151,000 from the Facility Construction and Renovation Stabilization Fund for additional design and electrical conduit work related to the Gilman Station elevator and GLX platform.
48. Mayor's Request (ID # 26229) Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$138,281 to various accounts in the Elections Department to fund in-person early voting in September and November.
49. Mayor's Request (ID # 26161) Requesting approval to transfer funds from the Sewer Capital Outlay Account to the Ordinary Maintenance Account to settle a pending claim totaling \$7,329 for repairs to a blocked residential sewer line.
50. Mayor's Request (ID # 26144) Requesting a transfer of \$13,500 from the City Council Salaries Monthly Account to the City Clerk's Office Salaries Account to unify the City Clerk's compensation into one Account.
51. Mayor's Request (ID # 26172) Requesting approval to pay two prior year invoices totaling \$800 using available funds in the OSPCD-Mobility Ordinary Maintenance Account for police details for shared street implementation work.

52. Mayor's Request (ID # 26162) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$675 using available funds in the Infrastructure and Asset Management Ordinary Maintenance Account for printed materials, including safety decals for hard hats.
53. Mayor's Request (ID # 26163) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$250 using available funds in the Infrastructure and Asset Management Ordinary Maintenance Account for an Enterprise Fund Accounting class.
54. Mayor's Request (ID # 26165) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$150 using available funds in the Infrastructure and Asset Management Ordinary Maintenance Account for an Asbestos Awareness training.
55. Mayor's Request (ID # 26152) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$250,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Housing and Community Development to the OSPCD-Mobility Division for Gilman Square streetscape design project.
56. Mayor's Request (ID # 26137) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$50,000 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.
57. Mayor's Request (ID # 26176) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$41,490.25 grant with no new match required, from MADoT to the OSPCD-Mobility Division for the Safe Streets and Paths project.
58. Mayor's Request (ID # 26150) Requesting acceptance of a \$16,111.11 grant with no new match required, from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for the purchase of security equipment to enhance physical security for city property and buildings.
59. Mayor's Request (ID # 26228) Requesting approval of the In-Person Early Voting Schedule for the September 14, 2021 Preliminary and the November 2, 2021 General Election.
60. Mayor's Request (ID # 26231) Requesting approval for specified City Employees to work the September 14, 2021 Preliminary Election and the November 2, 2021 General Election.
61. Mayor's Request (ID # 26149) Requesting the reappointment of Eleanor Rances to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 62. Officer's Communication (ID # 26148) City Solicitor requesting approval to pay FY21 Outside Legal Counsel Invoices with funds from FY21 and FY22.
- 63. Officer's Communication (ID # 26145) Planning Board conveying its recommendations on items 211675, 211890, 211988, 211889, 212047, 212050, 212051, and 212052, all requests to amend the Zoning Ordinances.
- 64. Officer's Communication (ID # 26155) Memorialization Committee submitting a new street named Auto Workers Way in Assembly Row.

NEW BUSINESS

- 65. License/Permit (ID # 26160) Public Event License, East Somerville Main Streets Market, sidewalk in front of East Branch Public Library, Sundays Aug 15-Oct 31, 10AM-2PM.
- 66. License/Permit (ID # 26224) Public Event License, Arthur D. Healey School Block Party, Meacham St from Edgar Ave to school parking lot, Aug 30, 4:30PM-7:30PM.
- 67. License/Permit (ID # 26183) Public Event License, Tufts Discover Davis Square, Statue Park, Sept 5, 11am-5pm.
- 68. License/Permit (ID # 26184) Public Event License, SomerFest, Seven Hills Park, Sept 10, 2PM-10:30PM (raindate Sept 17).
- 69. License/Permit (ID # 26185) Public Event License, Oxford St Block Party, Oxford St from Trull Ln to School St, Sept 11, 1PM-11:00PM (raindate Sept 12).
- 70. License/Permit (ID # 26186) Public Event License, ESMS Howl-o-ween Pet Parade, New Washington Street and Zero Washington Dog Park, Oct 16, 11AM-4PM (raindate Oct 17).
- 71. License/Permit (ID # 26156) New Drainlayer's License, Ronan 953 LLC.
- 72. License/Permit (ID # 26157) New Drainlayer's License, Peter Amorello Construction & Demolition.
- 73. License/Permit (ID # 26158) New Drainlayer's License, The Welch Corp.

- 74. License/Permit (ID # 26169) New Drainlayer's license, Garrett Construction Co. Inc.
- 75. License/Permit (ID # 26147) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Strongback Systems.
- 76. License/Permit (ID # 26159) New Garage License, 101 South Street Owner LLC, 101 South Street, 300 vehicles inside, 0 outside, for storing vehicles only.
- 77. License/Permit (ID # 26225) New Garage License, FRIT, 485 Foley Street, 250 autos inside, 0 outside for storing vehicles only.
- 78. License/Permit (ID # 26226) New Garage License, FRIT, 455 Grand Union Boulevard, 611 autos inside, 0 outside for storing vehicles only.
- 79. Public Communication (ID # 26188) AP Davis Square Plaza, LP requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to re-zone four parcels in Davis Square Plaza from MR-4 to Civic and CC-4.
- 80. Public Communication (ID # 26189) Tufts University President responding to # 212222 re: supporting Tufts Labor Coalition and Tufts dining workers.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 81. Order (ID # 26233) 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.
- 82. Order (ID # 26234) 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.
- 83. Mayor's Request (ID # 26178) Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for payments of Certificates of Occupancy.
- 84. Mayor's Request (ID # 26179) Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for Commercial Spaces.
- 85. Mayor's Request (ID # 26180) Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for Sidewalk & Frontage Clarifications.

- 86. Mayor's Request (ID # 26181) Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for Rooftop Mechanicals.
- 87. Mayor's Request (ID # 26182) Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for MPD + Boynton Sub Area.
- 88. Mayor's Request (ID # 26154) Requesting approval to appropriate \$75,654 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for Cloud email infrastructure to upgrade to a more advanced security profile.
- 89. Mayor's Communication (ID # 26235) Conveying a communication to Armory tenants regarding Use & Occupancy Agreement and the City's plan for the Armory.

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT