



**City of Somerville,
Massachusetts
Public Health and Public Safety
Committee
Meeting Minutes Dispositions**

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

6:00 PM

Virtual

The meeting took place remotely via Zoom and was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chair McLaughlin and adjourned at 7:43 PM on a roll call vote of 2 in favor (Councilors Davis and McLaughlin), none against and 1 absent (Councilor Sait).

Others present:

Nick Antanavica – Director of Inspectional Services, Chief Shumeane Benford - SPD, Captain Jeffrey Digregorio – SPD, Hannah O’Halloran – Director of Homeless Services - Somerville Homeless Coalition, Kimberly Hutter – Legislative Liaison, Peter Forcellese – Legislative Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Lance L. Davis and Ward Five City Councilor Naima Sait

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Public Health and Public Safety Committee Meeting of September 23, 2024. [24-1386](#)

Accepted

Aye: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis and Ward Five City Councilor Sait

Homelessness

2. That the Director of Health and Human Services provide monthly updates to this Council’s Committee on Public Health and Public Safety regarding ongoing efforts to address homelessness. [24-0062](#)

Sponsors: Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Strezio, Councilor Wilson and Councilor Davis

Kept in committee

3. That the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on interdepartmental efforts to establish a Warming Center at the Cummings School and the repairs needed to accomplish this. [24-1299](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Wilson, Councilor Ewen-Campen,
Councilor Sait, Councilor Mbah and Councilor Clingan

Recommended to be marked work completed

4. That the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on the establishment of an Overdose Prevention Center, including a timeline for implementation. [24-1209](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Burnley Jr.

Recommended to be marked work completed

5. That the Administration update this City Council on efforts to open an Overdose Prevention Center. [24-1207](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Davis

Recommended to be marked work completed

Davis Square

6. That the Administration update the Ward Six Councilor in writing on efforts to address open substance use in Seven Hills Park and other areas. [24-1206](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Davis

Recommended to be marked work completed

7. That the Administration install or replace needle disposal receptacles in Seven Hills Park and other areas with secure, appropriately designed equipment. [24-1204](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Davis, Councilor Wilson and Councilor Burnley Jr.

Recommended to be marked work completed

8. That the Administration greatly increase the trash and needle pickup in and around Davis Square, including Seven Hills Park and the Community Path. [24-1201](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Pineda Neufeld and Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

9. That the Administration discuss with this Council, its policies and plans to address the widespread and open drug use in Davis Square. [24-1200](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Pineda Neufeld

Recommended to be marked work completed

Police

10. That the Chief of Police update this Council on how the Police Department will ensure members of the public remain separated during counter-protests. [24-1414](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Mbah, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Clingan and Councilor Sait

Recommended to be marked work completed

11. That the Director of Racial and Social Justice update this Council on the promised road map from the consultant for implementing the recommendations in the report on Police Staffing and Operations delivered in November. [24-0471](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Wilson, Councilor Scott, Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Mbah

Recommended to be marked work completed

12. That the Administration discuss with this Council, the programs and services being offered to the un-housed population in Davis Square. [24-1199](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Pineda Neufeld

Recommended to be marked work completed

Buildings

13. That the Director of Inspectional Services submit a written report of outstanding 311 requests submitted for the Edgerly School building and provide an update to this Council with a plan to ensure that staff and students have safe and appropriate facilities. [24-1413](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Mbah, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Sait, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wilson

Recommended to be marked work completed

14. That the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator take the necessary measures to ensure ADA compliance for the second floor of 165 Broadway for the purposes of expanding youth services. [24-1326](#)

Sponsors: Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

15. That the Director of Economic Development discuss outdoor seating policies and fees, especially pertaining to small businesses. [24-1034](#)

Sponsors: Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Davis

Kept in committee

16. That the Administration convene the appropriate departments to discuss the monitoring efforts of the wild turkey population within Somerville and the surrounding regions.

[24-0478](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

Referenced Documents:

- PHPS - 2024-11-12 CHW Info (with 24-1199)
- PHPS - 2024-11-12 Living with Turkeys (with24-0478)
- PHPS - 2024-11-12 HHS Memo (with 240062, 24-1199, 24-1201, 24-1299)
- PHPS - 2024-11-12 Memo_OutdoorDiningFees_wAppendicies (with 24-1034)
- PHPS - 2024-11-12 Memo SPD (with 24-0471, 24-0478, 24-1200, 24-1206, 24-1414)