

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the Board of Aldermen

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2013, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen'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 OF THE MEETING

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
Maureen Bastardi	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Courtney O'Keefe	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	

1. #195647 Call of the Roll.
Roll Call

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

2. #195648 By the Entire Board, and the Mayor
Remembrance Moment of remembrance for Deanna Cremin, whose name was added to the Garden of Peace Memorial on Beacon Hill last month, 18 years after her murder.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

3. #195649 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, September 12, 2013.
Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED

CITATIONS

4. #195650 Citation By Ald. Sullivan, and the Entire Board and the Mayor Commending Frederick and Mary Caruso on the auspicious occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

RESULT: APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. #195651 Grant of Location submitted by Lightower Fiber Networks for 100 feet of Grant of Location conduit in Broadway, from a manhole to 300 Broadway.

RESULT: APPROVED

6. #195652 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to relocate Pole 162/5 on Grant of Location Harrison Street 5 feet northwest, to provide for a driveway at 47 Harrison Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. #195653 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to install 7 feet of conduit in Grant of Location Highland Avenue from Manhole #18943 to 129 Highland Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

CONDITION: Work is to be performed only between 9AM and 2PM.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

8. #195654 Order By Ald. O'Keefe That the Chief of Police order a speed enforcement patrol on Trull Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

9. #195655 Order By Ald. O'Keefe That the Traffic Engineer inspect Trull Street to determine if better signage would alleviate speeding.

RESULT: APPROVED

10. #195656 Order By Ald. O'Keefe That the City Solicitor research whether other cities and towns have implemented regulations on E-cigarettes and report back to the Ward 5 Alderman.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

11. #195657 Resolution By Ald. O'Keefe, Taylor
That the Administration consider moving SomerStreets events to areas around city parks to alleviate the burden placed on residents trying to navigate around these festivals.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

12. #195658 Resolution By Ald. O'Keefe
That the Administration map out 5K road race routes in different locations around the city, so the same location is not used every time.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

13. #195659 Order By Ald. O'Keefe
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait Aberdeen Road, Highland Avenue between Aberdeen Road and Cherry Street, Cherry Street, Wilton Street and Lowell Street for rodents.

RESULT: APPROVED

14. #195660 Order By Ald. Taylor
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) and the Director of Health address the rodent issue at 7 Grand View Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

15. #195661 Order By Ald. Taylor
That the Director of SPCD and the Chief of Police enforce the trash ordinance pertaining to early morning dumpster pick ups in Union Square, specifically on Sanborn Court.

RESULT: APPROVED

16. #195662 Order By Ald. Taylor
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the malfunctioning street lights at the corner of Warren Avenue and Bow Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

17. #195663 Resolution By Ald. Bastardi That the Administration begin steps to acquire the parcel of land at the intersection of Austin Street and Maine Terrace in hopes that it will become a green space.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

18. #195664 Order By Ald. Bastardi That the Commissioner of Public Works clean the old Chuckie Harris Park as well as the dead end portion of Cross Street East and make it part of their regular maintenance schedule.

RESULT: APPROVED

19. #195665 Order By Ald. Bastardi That the Superintendent of Recreation maintain an updated calendar of park permit availability online so constituents can readily know if a park is available on any given date.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Youth Services Committee

20. #195666 Order By Ald. Bastardi That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the car wash at 31 Washington Street for rodent burrows, especially the grounds around the fence surrounding the dumpster.

RESULT: APPROVED

21. #195667 Order By Ald. Bastardi That the Director of SPCD (ISD) direct the owner of 19 Pinckney Street to clear the overgrowth there.

RESULT: APPROVED

22. #195668 Order By Ald. Bastardi That the Commissioner of Public Works level off the sidewalk at 12 Pennsylvania Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

23. #195669 Order By Ald. Bastardi That the Commissioner of Public Works direct the City Arborist to inspect all trees on Rush Street and make recommendations as to the best course of action to be taken.

RESULT: APPROVED

24. #195670 Resolution By Ald. Sullivan, and the Entire Board
That this Board declares the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

RESULT: APPROVED

25. #195671 Order By Ald. Sullivan
That the Director of the Women's Commission appear at a future Public Health and Safety Committee meeting to update this Board on the city's domestic violence prevention efforts.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

26. #195672 Order By Ald. Sullivan, Bastardi, Connolly, Desmond, White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works install a decorative wrought iron barrel at 240 Pearl Street. (2nd request.)

RESULT: APPROVED

27. #195673 Order By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Chief of Police enforce the NO BIKING ON SIDEWALK ordinance in commercial districts, and attend the next Public Health and Safety Committee meeting to discuss bicycle safety and enforcement issues.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

28. #195674 Order By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair or replace the unlit street lamp on Winter Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

29. #195675 Resolution By Ald. Connolly, and the Entire Board
That this Board commends the Mayor, his Administration, the State Delegation, and the Federal Delegation, for all their efforts to secure the recent GLX funding commitment from the Commonwealth and the MBTA, to fund the Green Line Stations from Lechmere to the Union Square stations.

RESULT: APPROVED

30. #195676 Order By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Commissioner of Public Works clean and repair all solar powered trash containers, city-wide.

RESULT: APPROVED

31. #195677 Communication By Ald. White Jr.
Acting as President, Forwarding two recent rulings from the Attorney General regarding the Open Meeting Law and advising this Board that these rulings will be discussed at an upcoming Rules Committee meeting.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Ad Hoc Rules Committee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

32. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. #195678 Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance meeting on October 3, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #191796 Resolution By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board requests that the city's contribution towards the health care premiums for its retirees be brought back up to 80%.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #192478 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That this Board's Committee on Finance meet with the Administration to formulate a Bond request for new seating/benches at Trum Field.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #193060 Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Director of SPCD provide the information requested herein regarding the purchase of real estate by the Redevelopment Authority.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. #193468 Resolution By Ald. White Jr.
That this Board requests that the Administration provide the Committee on Finance with a detailed explanation of how the additional \$6.25 million for the East Somerville Community School project will be used.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. #193603 Public Communication School Superintendent commenting on a Medford City Council Resolution seeking supplemental State funding for students' out-of-district transportation.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. #193628 Public Communication Medford City Council submitting a Resolution seeking supplemental State funding for students' out-of-district transportation.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

- H. #193629 Resolution By Ald. Roche, O'Donovan, Sullivan, Connolly, Desmond, Trane, Lafuente, White Jr.
That this Board requests that the Administration consider hiring a full time rodent control manager whose primary responsibility will be to deal with the city's various rodent issues.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- I. #193755 Resolution By Ald. O'Donovan
That this Board requests that the Administration and this Board increase all public occupancy permit fees for events that are not for 100% charitable purposes.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- J. #194048 Resolution By Ald. O'Donovan
That this Board requests that the Administration and the City Engineer submit a bond to this Board to rectify the drainage issues on Cedar Street.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- K. #194055 Resolution By Ald. Heuston
That this Board requests that the Administration provide this Board with an analysis of potential mid-year cuts in state aid on the budget, and contingency plans to maintain current services if the cuts are implemented.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- L. #194160 Order
By Ald. White Jr.
That the City Solicitor appear before the Finance Committee to discuss the methodology to submit claims to insurance companies for damages to city buildings.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- M. #194460 Resolution
By Ald. Gewirtz
That this Board requests that the Administration report to this Board the status of the city's application for the "Working Cities Challenge" grant that could bring \$700,000 to our community over several years in support of low income residents.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- N. #194504 Order
By Ald. White Jr.
That the Director of SPCD respond in writing to #193062, to describe funds paid or anticipated to be paid through the Somerville Redevelopment Authority to Federal Realty Investment Trust, including reimbursements of FRIT expenses, in connection with Assembly Square.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- O. #194826 Order
By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan, Bastardi
That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Board on #194517, the renovation of High School Room 143, including the scope, architectural and engineering plans, RFPs, bids and a timeline.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- P. #194846 Order
By Ald. Connolly
That the Director of SPCD provide the Finance Committee with a breakdown of the costs and chronology of the land swap and parcels referenced in #194370 and #194765.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- Q. #194920 Officer's Communication
DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- R. #194959 Resolution By Ald. O'Keefe
That the Administration inform the Ward 5 Alderman on the bond request to update the bleachers at Trum Field.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- S. #194971 Resolution By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Administration reduce the fee charged to the Davis Square Farmer's Market for use of the Herbert Street lot, as the Market provides a tremendous amenity to the Square.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- T. #195027 Officer's Communication Director of SPCD updating this Board on recent developments regarding property acquisitions by the Redevelopment Authority in the Union Square Revitalization Area.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- U. #195379 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to extend the Traffic and Parking Dept.'s Multi-Space Meter Contract until September 30, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- V. #195554 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to retain outside legal counsel to provide services regarding casino proposals before the MA Gaming Commission and surrounding community impacts.

RESULT: APPROVED

- W. #195630 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a grant of \$33,000 From the Cambridge Health Alliance for the Health Department to pursue programming to prevent opioid abuse.

RESULT: APPROVED

- X. #195631 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a grant of \$21,785.57 from the Boston Office of Emergency Management, to expand the connectivity of the Emergency Operations Center within the Public Safety Building.

RESULT: APPROVED

- Y. #195679 Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Director of SPCD meet with this Board's Committee on Housing and Community Development to discuss #195571, a proposed \$500,000 bond to fund a major plan change to the existing Assembly Square Urban Renewal Plan.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

33. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. #195680 Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development meeting Committee Report on October 1, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #192479 Order By Ald. O'Donovan
That this Board's Committee on Housing and Community Development meet with the Director of SPCD and the Director of Housing to develop an appropriate Senior Housing Ordinance.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #192636 Resolution By Ald. Gewirtz
That this Board requests that the Administration provide information about plans to support local grocery stores in our economic centers.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #194362 Order By Ald. White Jr.
That the Director of SPCD provide this Board with the Development Covenant for Assembly Square between the City, the Redevelopment Authority, and FRIT, including all revisions and amendments.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. #194501 Order By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of SPCD provide this Board with an update regarding the timeline for expansion of the community path garden behind Rite-Aid, as gardening season is about to be underway.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. #194659 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD (Parks and Open Space) provide this Board with the feasibility of creating "Friend of Parks" organizations for city parks, to promote citizen participation in the oversight of parks and to provide resources for the establishment of such groups.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. #195071 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) appear before this Board to discuss the so-called Italian/Portuguese kitchens that are commonplace throughout the city.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- H. #195495 Order By Ald. Heuston
That the Director of SPCD inform this Board of the jurisdiction the City has over Clear Channel billboards, including contracts the City is party to, and ways the City can reduce the negative impact of they have on residents' quality of life.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

34. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. #195681 Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits meeting on October 3, Committee Report 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #195470 Public Communication Carla DeLellis submitting comments re: #195198 and #195222, two mobile food vendor applications for Davis Sq.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. Motion To permit business owner Ken Kelly to address this Board re: #195565, a Radio BDC Concert in Union Sq.

RESULT: APPROVED [9 TO 2]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, White Jr., Bastardi, Heuston, Taylor, Lafuente, O'Keefe, Trane
NAYS: Dennis M. Sullivan, Rebekah Gewirtz

- D. #195565 License/Permit Public Event Permit, Radio BDC Festival on the Square, Union Sq. Somerville Ave. & Washington St., Oct 13, 6AM-9:30PM.

RESULT: APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS. [9 TO 2]
AYES: Connolly, Desmond, Bastardi, Heuston, Taylor, Lafuente,
O'Keefe, Gewirtz, Trane
NAYS: Dennis M. Sullivan, William A. White Jr.

CONDITION: That the Petitioner pay for the Port-o-Johns, and for the Police Details up to \$5,000.

- E. #195584 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric, for 63 feet of conduit in Grant of Location Porter Street from a pole to 146 Hudson Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

35. SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

- A. #195682 Report of the Committee on Senior Services, meeting at Bryant Manor on Committee Report October 1, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #195683 By Ald. Sullivan, Connolly, White Jr.
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the trees on Myrtle Street from Pearl Street to Perkins Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

- C. #195684 By Ald. Sullivan, Connolly, White Jr.
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works re-pave the sidewalk at 75 Myrtle Street and make the entrance safer for seniors.

RESULT: APPROVED

- D. #195685 By Ald. White Jr.
Resolution That the Traffic Commission examine the traffic pattern on Franklin Street and Broadway and report its findings to the this Board's Committee on Senior Services.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Senior Services Committee

36. SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

- A. #195686 Report of the Committee on Senior Services, meeting at Cobble Hill Committee Report Apartments on October 9, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

37. SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

- A. #195687 Report of the Committee on Senior Services, meeting at Pearl Street Park on Committee Report October 9, 2013.

RESULT: APPROVED

38. YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

- A. #195688 Report of the Committee on Youth Services meeting on October 10, 2013. Committee Report

RESULT: APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

39. #195689 Requesting approval to extend the Traffic and Parking Dept.'s Multi-Space Mayor's Request Meter Contract.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

40. #195690 Requesting approval to pay Department of Public Works Prior Fiscal Year Mayor's Request Invoices totalling \$25,321.44.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

41. #195691 Withdrawn. Mayor's Request

42. #195692 Requesting the Appointment of Shaun Clark to the Somerville Police Mayor's Request Reserve List.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

43. #195693 Requesting the Appointment of Joel Giacobozzi to the Somerville Police Mayor's Request Reserve List.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

44. #195694 Requesting the Appointment of Joseph Moreira to the Somerville Police
Mayor's Request Reserve List.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

45. #195695 Requesting the Appointment of Alexander Lorenti to the Somerville Police
Mayor's Request Reserve List.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

46. #195696 Requesting the Appointment of Michael O'Regan to the Somerville Police
Mayor's Request Reserve List.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

47. #195697 Requesting the Appointment of Michael Cabral to the Somerville Police
Mayor's Request Reserve List.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

NEW BUSINESS

48. #195698 Public Event Permit, Honk! Festival, Davis Sq., Oct 12 Noon-9PM, Oct 13
License/Permit Noon-1PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

49. #195699 Renewing Drainlayer's License, JP Vara Company.
License/Permit

RESULT: APPROVED

50. #195700 New Drainlayer's License, M. Ciulla Inc.
License/Permit

RESULT: APPROVED

51. #195701 License/Permit Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2 2012-2013, Ideal Automotive Services, 96 Dover St.

RESULT: APPROVED

52. #195702 License/Permit Temporary Grant of Location, BayRing Communications, for overhead wires on Curtis Street, Ware Street, Russell Road, Hamilton Road, and Barton Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

Ald. Trane recused.

53. #195703 Public Communication Rachel Mello submitting comments re: #194483, a proposed zoning change on Somerville Avenue.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

54. #195704 Public Communication Janiel Siciliano and Antonio Anzalone submitting comments re: #195247, a proposed zoning ordinance to change all CCD45 and CCD55 zoning districts in Ward 4 to RC zoning districts.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

55. #195705 Communication By Ald. White Jr. Acting as President, Creating a Special Committee on Rodent Issues, chaired by Alderman Heuston, with members Aldermen Connolly and White.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

56. #195706 License/Permit Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Reunion Christian Church, 55 Davis Sq.

RESULT: APPROVED

LATE ITEMS

57. #195707 Order By Ald. Desmond
That the City Clerk send a communication to the applicant for the HONK! Festival requesting that future permit applications be submitted in a more timely fashion.

RESULT: APPROVED

58. #195708 Order By Ald. Taylor
That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the tree at 19 Cambria Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

59. #195709 Order By Ald. Taylor
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait all the sewers on Cambria Street for rodents.

RESULT: APPROVED

60. #195710 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Police Sergeant Timothy Mitsakis to the position of Lieutenant.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

61. #195711 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Police Officer Martha Costa to the position of Sergeant.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

62. #195712 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Police Officer John Tam to the position of Sergeant.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

63. #195713 Officer's Communication DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted this evening.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

64. #195623 New Fortuneteller License, Astrology Studio, 278 Elm St.
License/Permit

RESULT: APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

CONDITIONS:

1. Petitioner must not install or use neon signage.
2. Petitioner must not use the premises as a residence.

65. #195624 New Outdoor Seating License, Astrology Studio, 278 Elm St., 1 A-Frame
License/Permit sign.

RESULT: APPROVED

66. #195639 Renewing Lodging House License, Delta Upsilon Fraternity, 114 Professors
License/Permit Row.

RESULT: APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk