



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 8, 2022

7:00 PM

**City Council Chamber and Remote
Participation**

Published September 6, 2022, 2:20 PM. Revised September 8, 2022 1:40 PM.

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the City Council may be conducted and via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audiovideo 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/5367760117147071243>.

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e. CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact Adrienne Pomeroy in advance, at 617-625-6600 x2059 or ada@somervillema.gov.

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

- 1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # [22-1523](#))
- 1.2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # [22-1524](#))
- 1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, July 14,
(ID # [22-1525](#)) 2022.

2. CITATIONS

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 3.1. Grant of Location Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install 10 feet
(ID # [22-1479](#)) of conduit in Columbia St, from Utility Pole 76/3-1X to a point
of pickup at 481 Columbia St.
- 3.2. Grant of Location Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install 42 feet
(ID # [22-1480](#)) of conduit in the intersection of Prospect St and Concord Ave,
from Manhole 4121 to Utility Pole 78/1.

- 3.3. Grant of Location (ID # [22-1481](#)) Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install 45 feet of conduit in the intersection of Glen St and Tufts St, from Utility Pole 340/4A to a point of pickup at the rear of 31 Tufts St.
- 3.4. Grant of Location (ID # [22-1482](#)) Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install a total of 311 feet of conduit in Webster Ave as follows: Starting from Utility Pole 362/4 to a new Manhole 31615, then continuing to Manhole 4118 located at the intersection of Webster Ave and Columbia St. Installation will also include conduit that will connect Utility Pole 362/5A to Manhole 13078 located at the intersection of Webster Ave and Tremont St.

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Order (ID # [22-1514](#)) By Charlotte Kelly
That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Parks and Recreation discuss extending the season for pools and splash pads during the Summer of 2023.
- 4.2. Order (ID # [22-1515](#)) By Charlotte Kelly
That the Director of Inspectional Services and the Environmental Health Coordinator update this Council on the SMART box program and other recent rodent control measures.
- 4.3. Order (ID # [22-1516](#)) By Charlotte Kelly
That the Director of the Office of Housing Stability discuss the response to the ending of the eviction moratorium, and any current unmet needs of residents who are experiencing housing instability.
- 4.4. Order (ID # [22-1517](#)) By Charlotte Kelly
That the Director of Finance and the Budget Director update this Council on the progress of the free cash certification and any anticipated plans for additional free cash use.
- 4.5. Order (ID # [22-1521](#)) By Kristen Strezo and Ben Ewen-Campen
That the Director of Inspectional Services increase measures to control the rat population from Vinal Avenue to Webster Avenue and from Highland Avenue to Summer Street.
- 4.6. Resolution (ID # [22-1522](#)) By Kristen Strezo
In support of the City of Somerville 311 employees' decision to unionize.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**6.A. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 6.A.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on September 6, (ID # [22-1519](#)) 2022.
- 6.A.2. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling (ID # [22-0432](#)) \$357,881.73 using available funds in the Department Public Works Administrative, Highway, and Sanitation Accounts for the purposes of resolving outstanding invoices.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.3. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to accept and expend a National Park (ID # [22-0477](#)) Service Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant of \$750,000, with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA), Division of Conservation Services (DCS) to the Public Space and Urban Forestry Division for the renovation of Conway Park.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.4. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$24,500 grant with (ID # [22-1420](#)) no new match required, from State E911 to the Police Department for E911 emergency medical dispatch services.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.5. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$295,463 grant (ID # [22-1421](#)) with no new match required, from State E911 to the Police Department for E911 Telecommunicator personnel costs.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.6. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$104,951.96 grant (ID # [22-1422](#)) with no new match required, from State E911 to the Police Department for E911 Training and Certification of 911 Telecommunicators.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.7. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$207.69 (ID # [22-1433](#)) using available funds in the Fire Department and Vehicle Repairs Account for the purchase of automotive parts.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.8. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$60.06 (ID # [22-1434](#)) using available funds in the Fire Department and Vehicle Repairs Account for supplies for the repair shop.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- 6.A.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1437](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$371.24 using available funds in the Health and Human Service Professional and Technical Account for Service Labor Cost for Mobile Market Van.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.10. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1438](#)) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$29,820 using available funds in the Law Department Outside Legal Counsel Services Account for Legal Services.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.A.11. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1441](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$108,226.71 grant from Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) to the Health & Human Services for the Public Health Shared Services Grant.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.B. LAND USE COMMITTEE**
- 6.B.1. Committee Report (ID # [22-1518](#)) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on September 1, 2022.
- 6.B.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-0654](#)) Requesting a text amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance to repeal all references to a Certificate of Zoning Compliance and replace with a requirement for the Building Official to conduct a zoning compliance review and maintain a public record of such reviews for all development.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.B.3. Ordinance (ID # [22-0825](#)) By Jake Wilson
Proposing an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances, Section 3.1.6.d, Residence District, to permit the Backyard Cottage accessory building type by right.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.B.4. Public Communication (ID # [22-0929](#)) Three owners requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 129R Highland Ave from UR to NR.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.B.5. Public Communication (ID # [22-1031](#)) Vivaldo Meneses Sr. requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 82-84 Prospect Street from MR5 to UR.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- 6.B.6. Public Communication (ID # [22-1110](#)) Thomas J. Cooke requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 14 White Street Place from NR to MR4.
RECOMMENDED: Withdrawn.

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1494](#)) Requesting the acceptance of Section 84 of Chapter 179 of the Acts of 2022 for local approval of the provisions of the Clean Energy and Offshore Wind Act.
- 7.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1512](#)) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Lamia Mamoon to the Library Board of Trustees.
- 7.3. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1513](#)) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Janaki Perera to the Library Board of Trustees.
- 7.4. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1510](#)) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Mark Sternman to the Library Board of Trustees.
- 7.5. Mayor's Request (ID # [22-1505](#)) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$147.50 using available funds in the City Clerk Office Supplies Account for Archives storage boxes.

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 8.1. Officer's Communication (ID # [22-1520](#)) Charter Review Committee conveying its recommendations and proposed Charter text.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. Public Communication (ID # [22-1491](#)) 77 registered voters requesting a Public Hearing on adopting a Green New Deal.
- 9.2. License (ID # [22-1504](#)) New Sign/Awning License, Athleta, 501 Assembly Row, 2 blade and 2 illuminated channel signs.
- 9.3. Public Event (ID # [22-1483](#)) Rob Maher applying for a Public Event License for Spring Hill BP on September 10 from 10am to 11pm (raindate September 17).
- 9.4. Public Event (ID # [22-1495](#)) Gilman Sq Neighborhood Association applying for a Public Event License for Gilman Sq Arts and Music Festival on September 10 from 11am to 7pm.
- 9.5. Public Event (ID # [22-1484](#)) Macy Coffey applying for a Public Event License for Lowden BP on September 10 from 12pm to 9pm (raindate September 11).
- 9.6. Public Event (ID # [22-1507](#)) Brandon Wilson applying for a Public Event License for Josephine Ave Neighborhood BP on September 10 from 3pm to 9pm (raindate September 25).

- 9.7. Public Event
(ID # [22-1485](#)) Emily Hardt applying for a Public Event License for Teele Square Neighborhood BP on September 11 from 2pm to 8pm (raindate September 24).
- 9.8. Public Event
(ID # [22-1486](#)) Helen Corrigan applying for a Public Event License for Irving St BP on September 17 from 10am to 8pm (raindate September 18).
- 9.9. Public Event
(ID # [22-1498](#)) Tristan Cunha applying for a Public Event License for Holyoke Rd BP on September 17 from 11am to 7pm (raindate September 18).
- 9.10. Public Event
(ID # [22-1487](#)) Janet McNamara applying for a Public Event License for Grove St BP on September 17 from 2pm to 8pm (raindate September 18).
- 9.11. Public Event
(ID # [22-1500](#)) Nelson Salazar applying for a Public Event License for Virginia St BP on September 18 from 2pm to 8pm (raindate September 25).
- 9.12. Public Event
(ID # [22-1488](#)) Nels Nelson applying for a Public Event License for Prospect Hill BP on September 18 from 3pm to 8pm (raindate October 2).
- 9.13. Public Event
(ID # [22-1499](#)) Anton Tutter applying for a Public Event License for Outside on Oxford on September 24 from 1pm to 10pm.
- 9.14. Public Event
(ID # [22-1497](#)) Pearl Emmons applying for a Public Event License for Glenwood Rd BP on October 15 from 12:30pm to 9:30pm (raindate October 16).

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 10.1. Order
(ID # 22-1527) By Beatriz Gomez Mouakad
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management provide an update on the status of the School Building Feasibility Study.
- 10.2. Order
(ID # 22-1528) By Beatriz Gomez Mouakad
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management provide an update on the status of the School Building Systems Feasibility Study.
- 10.3. Order
(ID # 22-1529) By Kristen Strezo
That the Director of Health and Human Services take steps to install emergency contraception dispensers in designated city bathrooms.

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- 10.4. Communication (ID # 22-1530) By Matthew McLaughlin
In his capacity as President, conveying the creation of a Special Committee on Charter Review.
- 10.5. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-1509) Requesting acceptance of an additional \$500,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development for Clarendon Hill Project infrastructure improvements.
- 10.6. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-0486) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$9,877 grant with no new match required, from The Home Depot Foundation to the Veterans' Services Department for the Team Depot Volunteer Project to build a veterans moving wall.
- 10.7. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-1502) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$23,313.19 using available funds in various Parks & Recreation Department accounts for unpaid 2021 and 2022 invoices.
- 10.8. Public Event (ID # 22-1532) Veterans' Services Department applying for a Public Event License for 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony on September 11 from 8:30am to 11:30am.
- 10.9. Public Event (ID # 22-1531) John Long applying for a Public Event License for Chandler St BP on September 17 from 2:30pm to 7:30pm (raindate September 18).
- 10.10. Public Event (ID # 22-1533) Somerville Homeless Coalition applying for a Public Event License for Somerville 5K Road Race on October 1 from 6am to 11:30am.

11. LATE ITEMS

12. ADJOURNMENT